

مكتبة المصلح

## Cabinet briefed on IMF talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Finance and Customs Minister Hanna Odeh has said that the talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) representatives took place in a positive atmosphere. He added that the austerity and corrective programmes in the balance of payment, which the IMF usually demands, were adopted in late 1988 in light of Jordan's economic conditions. In a report to the cabinet session Saturday, chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, on the meetings which took place with IMF representatives, Odeh said that the discussions did not deal with changing the dinar's rate of exchange or devaluing the Jordanian currency. "The talks did not touch on lifting the government's subsidy of basic food commodities," Odeh added. The dinar's rate of exchange, Odeh said, will remain within the set equation and the government's support of food commodities will continue. At the end of the cabinet session, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Qasem presented a report on the six-member Arab committee in charge of dealing with Lebanon's crisis.

# Jordan Times

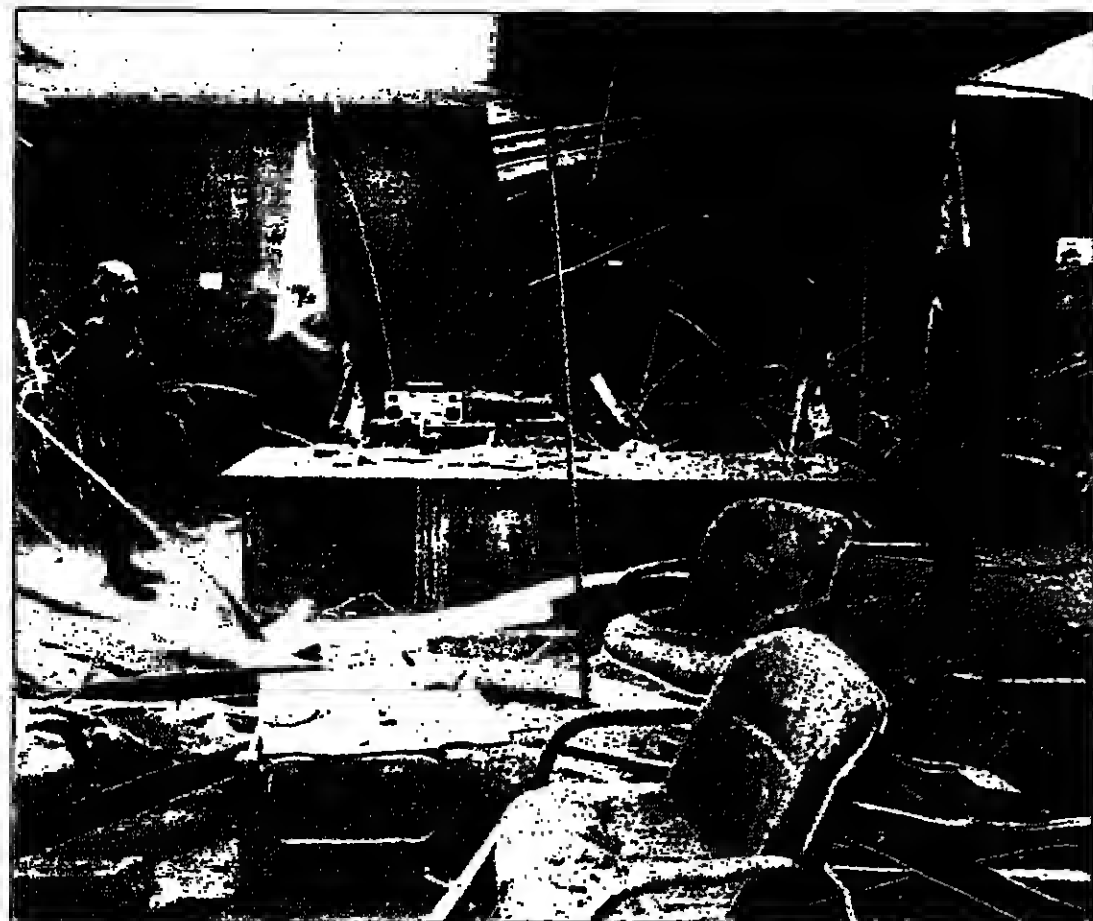
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The office of Lebanese Army Commander Michel Aoun destroyed after heavy bombardment by Syrian troops and Druze militiamen in the latest escalation of the Lebanese conflict (Sygma photo)

## Rival gunners ignore U.N. ceasefire call for Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian forces fired at a key power plant in the Falangist heartland Saturday as artillery and rocket duels with Falangist army units raged on despite a United Nations ceasefire call in the 25-day-old war.

Police said one person was killed and 12 were wounded in the fighting. That raised the overall toll to 130 killed and 421 wounded since fighting erupted on March 8 between Falangist troops under Army Commander Gen. Michel Aoun and an alliance of Syrian troops and Druze militiamen.

Falangist sources said the Syrians were planning to escalate the fighting and have brought in from Damascus new artillery and rocket batteries.

They accused the Syrians of seeking to demolish key public utilities in the besieged enclave of 800 square kilometres.

Voice of Lebanon, the Falangist's main radio station, said Syrian gunners "intentionally ignored" the ceasefire plea by the U.N. Security Council to continue destroying Falangist-held areas.

Voice of the People, a pro-Syrian station in west Beirut, described Aoun as "the crazy general."

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing rules, said Syrian Army gunners pounded the Falangist heartland northeast of Beirut with Howitzers and multi-barrelled rocket launchers throughout the day.

He said Aoun's 20,000-strong army retaliated by firing 155mm

Howitzer shells into Syrian-held west Beirut, Druze-held mountains southeast of the capital and east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Voice of Free Lebanon, which is controlled by the Falangists' main militia, the Lebanese Forces, interrupted programmes repeatedly to urge the population to remain in bomb shelters.

"The Syrians are planning to escalate the confrontation. They are deploying additional artillery and rocket batteries. Civilians are advised to take maximum precaution and remain in shelters," the radio said.

Voice of the Nation, the most popular station in west Beirut, also cautioned the population against the possible escalation of hostilities.

"All attempts to arrange a ceasefire have failed. Civilians have no option but to remain huddled in basements," the radio said in a commentary.

A Falangist military source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Syrians Saturday deployed Soviet-designed 180mm Howitzers for the first time since the fighting flared more than three weeks ago.

"They are using the heavy Howitzers to knock out army bunkers and fortifications. It seems they want to use it to demolish vital utilities as well," the source said.

He said several Syrian-fired 180-mm Howitzer shells exploded around the main power station in the Christian suburb of Zouk, north of Beirut before dawn.

Meanwhile, a fire at a fuel depot in Beirut's Dora district caused by Syrian shelling was "fizzling out," according to Elie Honein, manager of the Civil Defence Department.

"The situation is not dangerous anymore, everything is under control. Dora's citizens can return to their homes," Honein said. Honein, in a statement, called on the estimated 150,000 people who evacuated the densely populated district after a hutane gas explosion Thursday to return to their homes.

The U.N. Security Council's president, Ambassador Abba Claude Diallo of Senegal, made the ceasefire appeal in a statement Friday.

"The members of the Security Council express grave concern at the recent deterioration of the situation in Lebanon, which has left many victims among the civilian population and caused considerable material damage," the statement said.

The council's members "urge all the parties to put an immediate end to the confrontations, to respond favourably to the appeals launched for an effective ceasefire and to avoid any action that might further heighten the tension," it said.

Hostilities have persisted despite a truce called by the Arab League Tuesday and a unilateral ceasefire declaration by Aoun Wednesday.

Aoun, 53, a Maronite Catholic, heads the military cabinet in Lebanon's dual government.

Peres, Shamir differ on coalition's achievements

## 2 more Palestinians fall victim to Israeli bullets

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and killed one Palestinian Saturday in a clash in the village of Bethany and one Arab reportedly died of wounds inflicted by Jewish settlers, the army and Arab hospital officials said.**

The military said a Palestinian from the West Bank village of Bethany was shot and killed after a group of Arabs stoned an army jeep patrol lightly wounding two soldiers.

An army spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the officer in charge of the patrol fired at the group, wounding one Palestinian.

The soldiers took the wounded Arab to Muqassas Hospital in East Jerusalem where he died, the spokesman said.

Arab reporters identified the Palestinian as Akram Mustafa Mahmoud Yassin, 24, and said he was shot in the heart.

The army said another Palestinian died of gunshot wounds suffered Thursday, but could not confirm reports by Arab hospital officials and Israel Radio that he was shot by Jewish settlers.

Arab reporters identified him as Tareq Awad Farah Amir, 23. The two deaths would raise the Palestinian death toll to 417 since the uprising against Israeli occupation began in December 1987.

Arab reporters said Yassin's

family took his body from Muqassas Hospital and buried him in a cemetery near a grove that was built in the 4th Century A.D. to mark a site believed to be the tomb of Lazarus.

The village of Bethany, two kilometres east of Jerusalem, is purported to be the site where Jesus resurrected Lazarus, brother of Mary.

The army imposed a curfew on the village's 4,000 residents after Yassin's funeral.

Six Palestinians were also wounded in confrontations with troops, including a 12-year-old Arab from the Gaza Strip who was shot in the hand.

Four Arabs were wounded in Gaza City as troops opened fire to disperse a demonstration in the area's commercial centre.

In the Gaza Strip about 180,000 residents remained under curfew in six refugee camps and neighbourhoods.

The longest standing curfew is on the Shati Refugee Camp where residents have been confined to their homes for 15 days.

In the West Bank village of Hajah, a 16-year-old Palestinian

was shot and wounded in the abdomen.

Witnesses at Yassin's funeral said troops fired teargas at the start of the procession and rounds of live ammunition into the air, prompting residents to hurl stones and insults.

But an officer arrived and ordered the soldiers to let about 50 people march to the cemetery with the coffin, draped in a banned Palestinian flag.

In Ramallah, residents said Arabs smashed the windshield, headlights and tail lights of a parked car from the Visnews international television news agency because they thought the "press" stickers were a cover for Israeli secret police.

Visnews last month filmed policemen posing as journalists by placing "press" signs on their unmarked car in occupied Jerusalem. Palestinians have said they no longer trust press stickers because of their use by Jewish settlers and Israeli police.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir expressed satisfaction with Israel's unity government on its 100th day Saturday.

In an interview on Israel Radio marking the government's first 100 days, rightist Likud Party leader Shamir said the broad coalition was needed to confront international, political and economic problems facing Israel.

"I can say that in general I am satisfied we succeeded in forming

the national unity government. I see great importance just in the fact that it exists."

But Peres, leader of the dovish Labour Party, criticised the Likud-led partnership in a separate radio interview, saying it had to do more than exist.

"It did nothing in the 100 days about the central problem, which is the problem of the peace process. At this point there is no process that will answer the urgent, burning needs of the country," Peres said.

Shamir travels to Washington next week for key talks with President Bush at which he is expected to propose elections in the occupied territories for Palestinians to choose delegates for peace talks.

The United States, Israel's closest ally, has urged Shamir to present new ideas to break the Middle East deadlock. The Jewish state has been increasingly isolated due to its handling of Arab unrest and a diplomatic initiative by the PLO.

Shamir rules out talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and says Israel must maintain its presence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, occupied in 1967.

Asked if he believed the unity coalition, whose foreign policy is controlled by the hardline Likud, would be able to achieve peace, Peres said:

## Khalaf: Algeria mediating between PLO, Syria

TUNIS (R) — Algeria is trying to mediate an end to the longstanding feud between Syria and the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a Palestinian leader said.

Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), deputy to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in the Fateh Movement, said any PLO-Syrian dialogue must be based on Syria accepting the PLO's new peace strategy.

But in Damascus, a semi-official Syrian newspaper lashed out at the PLO's peace strategy Saturday, saying it failed to force Israel to make peace.

Khalaf told Tunisian journalists Friday: "Algeria is working to

open a dialogue between the PLO and Syria and we have accepted this Algerian mediation.

"But those who want to talk to us must do so on the basis of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers and its resolutions."

The PNC last November proclaimed an independent state of Palestine and approved a peace plan based on the Palestinian state living alongside Israel.

Syria, which backed a rebellion against Arafat in 1983, is the only Arab country which has not recognised the new state. Syrian-based Palestinian groups denounced the PLO peace plan as

defeatist.

Syria's Al Thawra newspaper said moves by some PLO leaders to drop "the principle of struggle and pick up the language of retreat and dialogue," made Israel more extreme.

"Thus this Palestinian attitude failed in luring Israel into peace talks and accepting the Palestinian people's rights," it said. "It only increased Israeli aggression and intransigence."

The Syrian comment was apparently timed to coincide with a meeting of the PLO Central Council in Tunis at which Arafat was expected to be criticised by the Syrian-based groups in the

PLO.

Abu Iyad said the PLO wanted good relations with all states and especially Syria because of its strategic position and status as a frontline state against Israel.

Arafat's trip to Algiers earlier this week and meeting with President Chadli Benjedid were part of the Algerian mediation, he added. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad visited Algiers in mid-March.

PLO sources said the organisation has set two conditions for reconciliation with Syria — recognition of the Palestinian state and the release of PLO prisoners from Syrian jails.

## Iran's interior minister lashes out at liberals

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's Interior Minister, Ali Akbar Mohtashami, lashed out Saturday against "liberals" in the regime for attempting to upgrade relations with the West, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mohtashami, known as the hierarchy's leading hardliner, as saying the liberals aimed at taking over key government posts in order to further their bridge-building efforts.

His remarks, coming after the resignations of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's successor and two Foreign Ministry moderates hinted that more so-called pragmatists may be purged in Iran's radical resurgence.

Mohtashami accused the moderates "of attempting to bring the country close to the West" by "taking advantage of the climate created in Iran" by the United Nations-sponsored ceasefire that halted the 8-year war with Iraq last Aug. 20.

He spoke at a rally in Tehran's Imam Hussein Square marking the 10th anniversary of the Islamic Republic's foundation. IRNA said, Iranians voted by an overwhelming majority on April 1, 1979 to abolish the monarchy and set up an Islamic state.

Following the cease-fire, Iran showed signs of emerging from years of self-isolation in order to seek Western aid in reconstructing its war-ravaged economy, and also of creating a more moderate political climate so that skilled exiles would return.

But Khomeini abruptly reversed that process with his Feb. 14 death sentence against British author Salman Rushdie for allegedly defaming Islam in his controversial novel The Satanic Verses.

Iran broke relations with Britain over the Rushdie affair. Iranian leaders repeatedly claimed the book's publication was a Western plot intended to undermine Islam.

Mohtashami described the death sentence as a "divine move" that had consolidated the Islamic community worldwide and called on all Muslims to "endeavor to defend their Islamic and revolutionary ideas."

The removal of Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, along with the resignations of Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larjani and U.N. Ambassador Mohammad Jafar Mahallati indicated Khomeini's determination to revive flagging revolutionary fervor.

Montazeri had openly criticised the government for insulating a spate of political executions after the ceasefire and admitted the revolution's shortcomings during recent celebrations of its 10th anniversary.

Larjani and Mahallati, both American-educated, played key roles in Iran's acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 halting the Gulf war.

Mohtashami's comments also underscored doubts about the future of Parliamentary Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, leader of the pragmatist faction.

The interior minister indirectly accused Rafsanjani and his supporters of being influenced by the United States and Britain into making long-term plans to establishing a network of pro-Western officials in the administration.

To achieve their aim, he said, "the anti-revolutionary groups and the liberals devised different plans and penetrated the people's hearts by chanting deceptive Western slogans."

## Iraqis vote for new National Assembly

BAGHDAD (AP) — Millions of Iraqis crowded polling stations around the country Saturday to elect a new 250-member National Assembly.

Twelve hours of voting ended at 8 p.m. (1600 GMT), and officials of the elections committee began counting votes in more than 900 polling stations around the country.

Officials said the turn-out was "relatively high," but exact figures were not immediately available.

They said the first returns are due to be announced Sunday, but final results are not expected until Monday.

The state-run television screened live footage from several polling stations, each supervised by a judge heading a five-man election committee.

The films showed long queues of men and women waiting to cast their votes.

Around 2 million of the country's estimated 8 million voters live in the capital, Baghdad, which had 59 stations.

In Dora, about 20 kilometres north of Baghdad, Deputy Chairman of the Ruling Revolutionary Command Council Izzat Ibrahim voted in his birth place district, Iraqi T.V. reported.

But it did not say where the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and other senior officials cast their votes. Ibrahim is the overall supervisor of the elections.

The government-controlled media called the election, the first to be held since the ceasefire in the war with Iran last Aug. 20, "a celebration of democracy" and called on Iraqis to cast their ballots "as a national duty."

Columist Daoud Al Farhan wrote in the Al Oadisiya newspaper that voters should elect

people who would work for "a permanent constitution, general freedoms, a multi-party system, reasonable prices, housing for all, improving social services, comprehensive health insurance, defence of human rights and battling embezzlers and thieves."

Stores and offices stayed closed for polling day, declared a national holiday in order to ensure as big a voter turnout as possible.

When campaigning ended Thursday, posters carrying black-and-white portraits of serious-looking candidates were removed from specific buildings and street corners where their display had been permitted.

Nearly 700 independent candidates, more than in two previous assembly elections, are running for the part-time legislature.

The assembly is expected to endorse a new constitution and a new law establishing a three-party system after 20 years of one-party rule by the Arab Baath Socialist Party.

In addition, there are 260 candidates from the ruling party, although authorities have stressed they are not members of an official ticket.

Forty-two candidates were dropped at the last minute when it was discovered in snap tests that they could not read or write, the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) announced Friday night.

The assembly, elected for a four-year term, shares legislative power with the RCC, which must ratify draft laws and also has veto powers.

Diplomats and political analysts say the election outcome may influence future policy-making by enabling independents to play a bigger role in the decision-making process.

## Al Hussein calls Assad

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Saturday evening and the two leaders discussed matters of mutual interests and regional issues.

## Mubarak flies to U.S.

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, armed with fresh Arab support, flew to Washington Saturday to try to persuade President Bush that Israeli intransigence is the only obstacle to Middle East peace efforts.

"The iron is hot. It's not in the interest of the United States... to let convulsive and extremist elements in Israel ruin the chance for peace," wrote Ibrahim Nafel, editor of Egypt's semi-official Al Ahran newspaper.

The editorial was accompanied by a cartoon which showed Bush with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in his hand. Shamir carried a smoking gun and a bleeding Palestinian child lay nearby.

Many Egyptians, angered by Israel's handling of the 15-month Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, believe Bush can pressure Israel into sitting at the negotiating table with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mubarak goes to Washington as an Arab envoy who has received personal backing in the past week from His Majesty King Hussein. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal told reporters in Cairo that Mubarak was the best Arab leader to present Arab views to the international community.

Top Egyptian foreign policy adviser Osama Al Baz said Mubarak would lobby Bush on the merits of an international peace conference as an umbrella for direct talks with Israel.

Mubarak will meet United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York to discuss possible efforts towards convening such a conference.

Shamir, who opposes the conference idea, is due to have talks with Bush in Washington later next week, followed by King Hussein on May 2.

Egypt's debt to the United States, including \$4.5 billion in high interest loans for military aid, is likely to be near the top of his agenda.

For two successive years, Washington has withheld \$130 million in cash aid to Egypt to try to prompt Mubarak to take more far-reaching reform measures at home.

Mubarak, unhappy at such linkage between aid and reform, would like the United States to lift restrictions on the use of \$2.3 billion in annual grants and to forgive some debt from earlier loans.

Egyptian officials were expected to visit the Washington offices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which is engaged in drawn-out negotiations with Egypt over a new standby credit programme.

Mubarak, slowly implementing unpopular and inflationary reforms, wants the IMF to take a more lenient view of issues directly affecting the plight of Egypt's poor.

The IMF wants rapid action to drop state subsidies and move more quickly away from a sluggish Soviet-style economy towards a free-market system hospitable to the private sector.

U.S. congressmen and officials are likely to ask Mubarak about reports that Egypt is developing a new chemical weapons plant and is involved with Argentina in a project to develop a medium-range missile which could carry a nuclear warhead.

## Operation Lifeline Sudan begins

KHARTOUM (AP) — Thirteen trucks flying the blue flag of the United Nations rolled out of Khartoum Saturday with the first shipments of a mammoth relief operation designed to head off a disaster as deadly as Hiroshima.

James A. Grant, the U.N. official coordinating Operation Lifeline Sudan, said never has anybody tried to move more relief in so short a period and under such deplorable conditions.

Before rainy season begins in early May, Operation Lifeline aims to position at depots more than 100,000 tons of food, blankets, tents and medical supplies to keep alive people displaced by famine and war in southern Sudan. The target population is 2.5 million hungry southerners.

Trucks, airplanes, trains and Nile River barges are being pressed into duty in the \$132 million project, which for the first time includes deliveries to villages and areas under control of anti-government rebels. They will be served mainly by trucks from Nairobi in neighbouring Kenya.

"This constitutes the biggest operation of its kind in such a short period in such difficult circumstances," Grant said before seeing off the trucks on their 720 kilometre trip to Muglad.

The village is in western Sudan just north of the war zone, but there already were 12,000 southerners sheltering there in mid-March and hundreds more arriving daily.

On their risky journey, the drivers will have to take their vehicles over roads that hardly deserve the name and nervously close to Kadugli, capital of southern Kordofan region, where heavy fighting has been reported in recent weeks.

"If we don't do this, the disaster will be roughly equal to the disaster of Hiroshima," Grant said. "Or in recent history, it will be four times larger a disaster than Armenia last fall, which arose the whole world."

Soviet officials estimated over 25,000 people died in the massive earthquake that struck Armenia last December. The first use of the atomic bomb in wartime, by the United States on Aug. 6, 1945, against Hiroshima, Japan, resulted in an estimated 78,000 deaths outright and up to 140,000 within a few months.

Nobody knows how many people already have died in Sudan's 6-year-old civil war. Western relief experts put the figure from 1988 alone at 250,000 to 500,000 or more. Some think as many as 2

million have died since the war began in 1983, mostly civilians driven from their homes who either perished while seeking shelter or left to starve in refugee camps or besieged towns.

Grant, special representative of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, described the Sudanese operation as "a race against time (and) a mission impossible that could be possible with the cooperation of everybody."

For the first time, both the government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have promised not to attack or otherwise hinder the relief shipments. Previous efforts were hampered by one side or the other for political or tactical military reasons.

Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi's government previously refused to countenance relief agencies' dealing with the rebels.

Rebel gunners have shot down at least two civilian passenger planes and one relief plane and have fired on several others, claiming the government uses civilian and relief aircraft to transport troops and military supplies. The rebels also have been blamed for attacks on relief trucks, barges and trains





Afghan children and their mothers packed behind a fence waiting food at one of Kabul's 29 mother-and-child clinics.

## Jalalabad rocket attack kills 22

KABUL, Afghanistan (Agencies) — Twenty-two people were killed when rockets hit a Sikh temple in the besieged city of Jalalabad, according to refugees brought to Afghanistan's capital by the government.

Sikhs who were brought by government helicopter to Kabul said 21 Sikhs and one Hindu were killed Thursday when rockets landed in and around the Sikh Gurdwara, or temple. Members of the Sikh minority gathered Saturday in Kabul to pray for the dead.

U.S.-supported Afghan rebels fighting to overthrow the Kabul government began their attack on Jalalabad March 6.

Capturing Jalalabad, which is located on the main highway leading to Kabul from the Pakistani border, would give the rebels control of their first major city and a base for an "interim government" they formed in Pakistan to rule if the Afghan leadership falls.

Gurmit Singh, one of a score of Sikhs brought to Kabul to see Afghan President Najibullah, told reporters hundreds of Sikhs and Hindus had taken shelter in the Gurdwara, which he said was hit by rockets Thursday afternoon.

Singh and others who arrived from Jalalabad said an additional 25 to 30 people were injured by the rockets.

They said nearly everyone in Jalalabad was staying indoors around the clock as the battle between government forces and rebels continued.

In Karachi, the son of former Pakistani military ruler Moham-

mad Zia Ul Haq vowed Saturday to carry out his father's wish to pray at Kabul's main mosque alongside Afghan rebels.

Zia, killed in a plane crash last August, pledged several times during his 11-year rule that he would pray in the Afghan capital's Pul-E-Kheshti Mosque with the rebels he supported in their fight against the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

"The day is not far off when I will fulfil the wish of my father to pray in the grand mosque of Kabul after the Mujahedeen become the government in Afghanistan," Ejaz-Ul-Haq told thousands of people at an opposition rally in Karachi.

Haq told the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) rally that IDA leader Nawaz Sharif would join him in prayer at the Kabul mosque.

He criticised Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who won last November's general elections, for not recognising the rebel's provisional government.

Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Bahrain are the only countries to recognise the "interim government", headed by moderate rebel leader Sibghatullah Mojaddidi and formed in February.

Meanwhile Soviet transport planes carrying tonnes of flour resumed flights into Kabul Friday as a government minister confidently predicted that Afghan

rebels could not starve the city into surrender.

"We have not collapsed until this time — ask the people whether the government can survive," said Commerce Minister Burhan Gazi.

"We hate this policy (the rebel attempt to starve the city). The people want to live in peace," he added.

Gazi was giving an impromptu briefing to a few Western reporters during an inspection visit to a windswept checkpoint on the Salang Highway on the northern edge of Kabul.

He said snow on the highway, which runs from the Soviet border to the Afghan capital, was more of a hazard to food supplies than attempts by rebel Mujahedeen to block the roads.

Delays in transporting food by road meant the authorities had to resort to air supply to ensure that at least 600 tonnes of flour reached Kabul daily, but bad weather had closed the capital's airport Wednesday and Thursday.

Gazi, a Moscow-trained member of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, said the food situation was better now than when the last Soviet soldiers left the country on Feb. 15.

Sporadic explosions echoed over the hills to the north of Kabul, freshly covered by a late fall of snow which checkpoint guards said had blocked the Salang Pass earlier this week.

Gazi said there had been no serious fighting in the area for four or five days and the highway was now open.

## Tunisian election — a test for Islamic movement strength

TUNIS (AP) — Up to 2.7 million Tunisians vote Sunday in parliamentary elections widely seen as a test of the strength of the Islamic Movement which helped to topple former President Habib Bourguiba in November 1987.

The elections are the first since President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali removed Bourguiba from power on grounds of senility and promised to open up the political system to alternative ideas.

The ruling party, now known as the Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD), has controlled all seats in the chamber of deputies (parliament) since Bourguiba led Tunisia to independence from France in 1956.

Multi-party elections were held in 1981 and 1986 but Tunisian officials have since admitted that Bourguiba ordered widespread vote-rigging.

Ibn Ali has repeatedly promised that his elections will be fair and opposition parties say abuses by some regional officials have

not yet invalidated the poll as a whole.

Seven recognised parties, ranging from Communists through Arab Nationalists to economic Liberals, are contesting the elections.

But the main interest lies in the performance of Islamic militants, thinly disguised as independents, standing in 20 of the 25 electoral districts.

"They have lots of money and they are very much there, right across the country," Foreign Minister Abdul Hamid Esheikh said in an interview published Saturday.

Bourguiba refused to give the Islamic Movement a place in political life and thousands of people were arrested or went into exile in the 1980s.

Ibn Ali, moved against Bourguiba after the ageing president ordered Islamic leader Rachid Ghannouchi to be retired and sentenced to death on charges of plotting to overthrow him.

The new president released the militants and sought to undermine their appeal by rehabilitating Islam. He put the call to prayer back on radio and television, reopened the ancient Zoumana Mosque in Tunis for Islamic studies and set up a new government department for religious affairs.

At the start of the two-week election campaign, the RCD apparently thought this record would be sufficient to win the religious vote for its candidates.

But, with the Islamic star in the ascendant, the RCD went on the offensive, accusing the independents of hiding their real intentions under a cloak of moderation.

"One language, hard and dogmatic, for the members and the close circles of cadres and another language, modern and tolerant, for public opinion," said the government newspaper La Presse in a front-page editorial Saturday.

## Ozal cabinet faces confidence vote

ANKARA (R) — Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's new cabinet faces a vote of confidence Tuesday after a local election defeat. It is likely to win but that may not protect it for long, commentators said.

Ozal shuffled his cabinet Friday to rejuvenate his image after local polls Sunday in which 78 per cent of Turks voted against his Motherland Party.

"Perhaps the prime minister does not want to believe it, but for him the curtain has fallen," wrote leading columnist Mehmet Ali Birand in the liberal daily

Milliyet newspaper.

The 25-man cabinet would easily win the confidence vote in parliament, where the centre-right Motherland Party still has 292 out of 450 seats, State Minister Mehmet Yazar said.

There have been no public defections from the party so far but political sources said between 50 and 100 might consider joining the 58 deputies from the conservative True Path Party (DYP) of former Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel.

Western diplomats said the

shuffle and vote might help Ozal delay mounting opposition calls for a general election, but probably only until 1990, two years early.

The new cabinet seemed aimed at defusing criticism of Ozal's party for alleged nepotism, corruption, economic mismanagement and pro-Islamic fundamentalist tendencies.

The party's religious right was outweighed in the cabinet by free-market liberals led by the new Deputy Prime Minister Ali Bozer.



Police guard Brussels mosque

Police guard the entrance to the Brussels mosque and Islamic Cultural Centre where the director and his deputy were shot.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Turkish MP charged

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish deputy was charged Friday with killing another member of parliament. Idris Arkan, a member of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's Motherland Party, was brought before an Ankara court amid strict security, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported. The prosecutor charged Arkan under article 450 of the penal code, which can bring the death penalty for killing a member of parliament. Abdurrazak Ceylan, a deputy of the centre-right True Path Party (DYP) was shot in a parliament corridor Wednesday in a quarrel which also involved an independent deputy named Zeki Celiker.

### Iran 'desirable partner' for Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati Friday that Iran was a "desirable partner" for Moscow and that improved ties could affect the international situation. "We regard Iran as a desirable partner," Gorbachev was quoted as saying by the official TASS news agency. "The improvement of Soviet-Iranian relations has international significance as well." Relations between the two countries have improved markedly since the Soviet Union undertook to remove more than 100,000 troops from Afghanistan. The pullout ended Feb. 15. Both sides hailed a new era of cooperation after last month's visit to Tehran by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, which included a rare audience with Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

### 'Lack of funds hamper Sudan relief

ROME (R) — The head of the United Nations food agency said Friday that lack of funds may force it to halt efforts to feed hundreds of thousands of starving people in southern Sudan. World Food Programme Executive Director James Ingram said that two of its staff would start distributing food Monday in areas controlled by Sudanese rebels, who have been fighting government troops since 1983. But donor nations had provided less than \$1 million of the \$21 million needed to avert a repeat of last year's famine when an estimated 250,000 people died. "We can do nothing unless we get support from donors," Ingram told Reuters. He said his organisation had only a month before the rainy season began to take food to an estimated one million people isolated by the war. Ingram said he could use up to \$1.5 million of his organisation's funds allocated for other activities but this would last for only a few days. It needed cash to buy food, to charter trucks and to finance airlifts.

### Cyriot mosaics sale blocked

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Four sixth century mosaics valued at millions of dollars will not be sold until a trial can be held to determine if they were taken from a church in Cyprus illegally, lawyers said Friday. The antiquities dealer who bought the mosaics last year in Switzerland consented in an agreement filed in court Friday not to sell, move or otherwise alter the artworks until a judge can rule on the ownership question, said John Hoover, a lawyer representing the Greek Cypriot government. The Greek Cypriot government, acting on behalf of the Cypriot Orthodox Church, had asked the court for an order to stop the mosaics from being sold. Friday's agreement made such an order unnecessary. Trial has been scheduled for May 30.

### Rain lashes South Yemen

ADEN (R) — Heavy rains lashed South Yemen Saturday as relief operations were stepped up to help thousands of people who lost their homes last month in the country's worst floods in 50 years. The Aden News Agency said France and Oman had joined nations sending relief aid to people whose homes were swept away in two weeks of torrential downpours. Deputy Prime Minister Saleh Moutasser Al Sa'ili, head of the relief committee, said at least 18 people were killed in the floods. South Yemen, with a population of about 2.5 million people, is one of the world's poorest countries.

### Iran to release 70 POWs

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iran will release 70 Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) Saturday, according to an Iranian statement released Friday. Iran still holds over 50,000 prisoners captured during the eight-year Gulf war with Iraq. A note from Iran's U.N. mission said the Foreign Ministry had informed the International Committee of the Red Cross in Tehran that the 70 sick Iraqi PoWs would be released unilaterally on Islamic Republic Day Saturday, marking the day 10 years ago when voters approved making Iran an Islamic state rather than a monarchy. The Red Cross has registered 50,182 prisoners held by Iran and 19,284 held by Iraq, but U.N. officials and diplomats estimate the total number of PoWs is about 100,000. A November 1988 agreement to exchange all sick and injured prisoners of war in November broke down over mutual recriminations of bad faith, including the numbers of prisoners requesting asylum on both sides.

### Israel slams Canada-PLO talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel has summoned the Canadian ambassador to protest Canada's decision to upgrade talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday. Canada announced Thursday it would upgrade low-level talks with the PLO and the Canadian ambassador to the United Nations met with the PLO representative there soon after. Canada's decision is the third major diplomatic gain this week for the PLO in Western countries friendly to Israel. French President Francois Mitterrand decided this week to meet PLO Chief Yasser Arafat and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called for talks with Palestinian representatives outside the occupied territories, presumably the PLO. "It is most regrettable that a friendly country such as Canada has decided to change its Middle Eastern policy. This Canadian step is counter-productive to the peace efforts," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

## As spring nears, Afghanis prepare for more war, new crops

By Earleen Fisher  
The Associated Press

KABUL — As the ground thaws with the approach of spring, piles of earth are being thrown up in preparation for more war and new crops.

Trenches are being dug around Afghan military positions at Kabul airport to help defend the capital's vulnerable lifeline to the outside world.

The Soviet Union continues to supply President Najibullah's forces with weapons and ammunition, but for the first spring since 1979 the Kabul government is without the Red Army's direct military participation in the war against the Mujahedeen.

However, some Soviet advisers remain under a bilateral friendship treaty that predates the Afghan civil war.

A Soviet colonel who was at Kabul airport in February during the final days of the Red Army's withdrawal, was spotted at the airport about a week ago — this time in civilian

clothing, according to a well-placed source who spoke on condition he was not identified further. The man smiled and said he was now retired from the Soviet armed forces, the source added.

In the last year, as the Kremlin prepared for the military withdrawal that was completed Feb. 15, most of the Soviets attached to Kabul University and government ministries disappeared. But some technical workers remain, such as air traffic controllers at Kabul airport, according to Afghan and foreign observers, who estimated the remaining number of Soviets in Kabul in the low hundreds. In a one-week period in mid-March, United Nations staffers counted 123 Soviet transport planes landing at Kabul airport. Scud-B missiles and ammunition crates have been seen being unloaded or leaving the airport.

Although the Afghan government portrayed the airlift as primarily one of food, the Soviets themselves said they

would continue their military resupply operations.

### War and crops

As the military preparations continue, green sprouts already are poking through the Earth in fields inside Kabul and on its outskirts, and more plots for wheat and vegetables are being prepared.

But crops grown in the government-held capital and its immediate environs can feed, at best, only one-eighth of Kabul's population of 2.2 million, according to U.N. estimates.

The rest must come by air or by roads that are subject to guerrilla attacks, harassment and sabotage.

New battle lines are being drawn. Earth-digging machines have been carving trenches inside Kabul airport and along a barren ridge overlooking the runway.

"If you lose the airport, you've lost Kabul," said a Un-

ited Nations official, speaking on condition he was not identified further. "They're building new defences there and strengthening old ones."

Only four major highways connect Kabul with the rest of the country. Two of them lead south and west straight into areas where the rebels are enclaved, sometimes within 25 kilometres of the city.

The eastern highway leads to Jalalabad, 125 kilometres away, where the rebels have been besieging government forces for three weeks.

That leaves the Salang Highway, which leads north through the Hindu Kush mountains to Afghanistan's Soviet border. The Salang passes through territory controlled by one of the rebels' ablest commanders, Ahmad Shah Masoud. In the past week, heavily loaded buses and some trucks have been reaching Kabul from the Salang, but in the past the Mujahedeen had a demonstrated ability to cut the

highway. Government and foreign aid workers agree there is no starvation in Kabul, but both sides say the plight of the capital's poorest people is growing worse because of shortened supplies or the inability to pay rising market prices.

The price of nan, the flat bread that is a chief staple of the Afghan diet, has been frozen by the government at six Afghanis — about \$0.10 at the official rate of exchange.

But the price of mutton, the favourite meat, has risen about 40 per cent in the last three months. Wages are unchanged.

A kilogramme of mutton now costs 1,000 Afghanis — \$18 at the official exchange rate and \$4.50 at the black market rate. That's one-fifth of the average monthly salary of a government office worker and about half the monthly salary of an unskilled labourer.

Tur Pekli, a 35-year-old mother of nine children, was

one of 1,000 recipients of free U.N.-supplied flour and sugar this week.

She said her husband, a teacher, earned a monthly salary of 3,000 Afghanis — \$54 at the official rate, about \$14 at the black market rate — but that was not enough to feed her family at today's prices.

"We can't find sugar," she said, speaking through the mesh facial panel of a brown chador veil that enveloped her from head to toe. "We don't want it anyway. It's too expensive."

Sugar has more than doubled in price since January, from 180 Afghanis a kilogramme to 400 Afghanis. That's a rise from \$3.25 to \$7.25 at the official rate and from \$0.80 to \$1.80 at the black market rate.

The black market rate, however, is largely immaterial to Afghanis, since most of them don't have the hard foreign currency on which the rate is based.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

**PROGRAMME ONE**  
15:30 ..... Koran  
15:45 ..... Programme review  
15:45 ..... Children programmes  
17:10 ..... Football  
18:00 ..... News summary in Arabic  
18:45 ..... Local programme  
18:50 ..... Arabic series  
19:15 ..... Local programme  
19:40 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... Programme review  
21:40 ..... Variety programme  
23:00 ..... News summary in Arabic

**PROGRAMME TWO**  
18:30 ..... Couilles  
18:30 ..... L'Ecole des Fais  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... A documentary  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Varieties programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Perfect Strangers  
21:10 ..... Captain James Cook  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... The Equaliser

### PRAYER TIMES

04:40 ..... Fajr  
05:19 ..... (Sunrise) Duha  
11:39 ..... Dhuhur  
15:12 ..... 'Asr

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Swedish, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
637440.  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Teresian Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
623541.  
Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel.  
628543.  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.  
771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.  
775261.  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.  
Armenian International Church Tel.  
635326.  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.  
811295.  
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 622605.  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-  
Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of  
Meteorology.  
Another gradual rise in temperature  
is expected and winds will be light and

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

variable. In Aqaba, winds will be  
northerly moderate and seas calm.  
Min./max. temp.  
Amman ..... 9 / 13  
Aqaba ..... 12 / 29  
Deserts ..... 8 / 25  
Jordan Valley ..... 12 / 28

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-  
man 21, Aqaba 27. Humidity readings:  
Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 30 per  
cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Tawfiq Qab'ia ..... 623029  
Dr. Khalil Abdo ..... 795392  
Dr. George Sabour ..... 776751  
Dr. Taysir Sa'di ..... 776336  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Firdous pharmacy ..... 776336  
Al Aqaba pharmacy ..... 637035  
Nairoukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salem pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shamsi pharmacy ..... 637660

**IRBID:**  
Dr. Lutfi Shalabi ..... (—)  
Al Sharara pharmacy ..... (985238)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Mufied Dams ..... (—)  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 661111  
Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 021111, 657777  
Fire Brigade ..... 62209093  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 65639091  
Public Security Department ..... 656000 / 685111  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Complaints ..... 897467  
Telephone Information ..... 12  
(directory assistance) ..... 17  
Overseas Calls ..... 623101  
Central Amman Telephones ..... 623101  
Abdull Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power ..... 636381  
Company

RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 08-52200

### HOSPITALS

ANKARA:  
Husein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khaldin Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816/6  
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsi ..... 6641714  
Shamsi Hospital ..... 660131  
University Hospital ..... 845846  
Al-Muasher Hospital ..... 666127/79  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/79  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 66616446  
Italian, Al-Mohajreen ..... 771101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 891611/15  
Army, Marja ..... 602240/50  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 674155  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Great Catholic Hospital ..... (02)72275  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)991071  
Bin Sina Hospital ..... (09)984732  
IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)755555  
Great Catholic Hospital ..... (02)72275  
Jin Al Madefee Hospital ..... (02)747100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in lbs per kg.  
Almonds ..... 840 / 740  
Apple ..... 350 / 400  
Banana ..... 350 / 300  
Banana (Mukammur) ..... 300 / 250  
Beans ..... 800 / 700  
Broad beans ..... 170 / 140  
Cabbage ..... 120 / 70  
Carrots ..... 210 / 160  
Cauliflower ..... 170 / 120  
Cucumbers ..... 320 / 280  
Dates ..... 500 / 400  
Eggplant ..... 270 / 200  
Garlic ..... 300 / 250  
Grapefruit ..... 340 / 300  
Lemon ..... 440 / 400  
Lettuce (per case) ..... 100 / 70  
Marrow (large) ..... 200 / 150  
Marrow (small) ..... 350 / 300  
Oranges (Shamouni) ..... 370 / 300  
Oranges (local) ..... 350 / 300  
Onion (dry) ..... 250 / 200  
Onion (green) ..... 160 / 120  
Pepper (hot) ..... 650 / 600  
Pepper (green) ..... 240 / 200  
Potato ..... 350 / 300  
Spinach ..... 120 / 80  
Strawberry ..... 1500 / 1000  
Tomatoes ..... 250 / 200

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal  
Jordanian (RJ) Information Depart-  
ment at the Queen Alia International  
Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it  
should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
(Terminal 1)

09:10 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
09:15 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
09:55 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Larissa (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna  
(RJ)  
10:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
11:05 ..... Paris (RJ)  
11:10 ..... London (RJ)  
11:20 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
12:55 ..... Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)  
13:30 ..... Helsinki, Aqaba (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Rome (RJ)  
14:15 ..... Moscow (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
14:45 ..... Baghdad (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 ..... Damascus, Paris (AF)  
10:20 ..... Cairo (MS)  
11:25 ..... Kuwait (KU)  
11:30 ..... Rome (AZ)  
11:35 ..... Tripoli (LN)  
11:45 ..... Dubai (EK)  
19:15 ..... Athens (LH)  
22:30 ..... Sudan (OA)

13:45 ..... Kuwait (LN)  
15:15 ..... Dubai (EK)  
18:25 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
19:05 ..... Beirut (ME)  
21:45 ..... Athens (LH)  
00:05 ..... London, Cairo (BA)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
(Terminal 1)

06:55 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
07:05 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
07:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
07:35 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
07:45 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
07:50 ..... Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Larissa (RJ)  
08:30 ..... Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna  
(RJ)  
08:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
09:05 ..... Paris (RJ)  
09:10 ..... London (RJ)  
09:20 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
10:55 ..... Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Helsinki, Aqaba (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Rome (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Moscow (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Baghdad (RJ)



ATF secretary general addresses conference:

## Arab World's awareness of human rights increasing

By Rania Atalla  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab World has failed to improve its human rights record despite a slight improvement in the general environment and a heightened interest in the human rights movement, according to Dr. Sad Eddin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF).

Addressing the opening session of a conference on human rights in the Arab World and the universal humanitarian order, Ibrahim noted that a greater awareness had developed among citizens and officials in the Arab World of the importance of respecting human rights.

"Awareness of the importance of respecting human rights and basic freedoms has become a persistent subject, not only for citizens but also for officials in most Arab states," Ibrahim told nearly 40 professionals and political thinkers from various Arab and international human rights organisations. "This is something new — something we have not witnessed in previous years."

Referring to the ATF's "state of the Arab Nation" report for 1988, Ibrahim noted that progress in the Arab World had been achieved through the 16-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli occupied territories, Egypt's readmittance into the Arab World, Iraq's victory in the Gulf war, the declaration of an independent Palestinian state, the creation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) and the Maghreb Union, in addition to the change towards democracy in Tunisia, Algeria, North Yemen and Iraq.

He noted however, that real peace in Palestine and the Gulf,

and an end to political conflict in the Sudan and Lebanon still needed to be achieved in the near future.

According to Ibrahim, the 1988 state of the nation report had listed the issue of human rights as one of the proposed targets which remained to be addressed by the Arab Nation in the coming year.

He said a consensus had emerged among participants in last week's ATF "political pluralism and democratisation" conference that real democracy could not be tackled in any Arab country as long as governments did not "respect" human rights both theoretically and in practice. Some scholars, he said, even went to the extent of saying that it would be sufficient if Arab countries were to respect its citizens' rights — rights which are cited in their constitutions and laws.

"There is a new Arab consensus that human rights and basic freedoms on the one hand, and democracy on the other, are indivisible and inseparable," he said adding that these two factors represented a popular demand which could not be traded with any other popular demand.

The conference, which is jointly organised by the ATF and the Jordan Federation for Business and Professional Women (JFBFW), is aimed at spreading public awareness on human rights as well as exchanging ideas between government and non-government organisations, according to the director of the Arab Human Rights Organisation Dr. Adh Al Jader.

The two-day conference, being held at the Amman Plaza Hotel, is expected to tackle the theoretical and practical conditions of human rights in the Arab World, the "methodology and context" of human rights violations, penalties on human rights violations,

ties on human rights violations, the right of the public to participate in development processes, Palestinian right to self-determination in addition to the new international human order.

Ibrahim noted that the United Nations had established a 30-member Independent International Commission for Humanitarian Issues headed jointly by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan. The committee, he said, had conducted over a four year period, studies on recent types of violations against humanity; violations such as wars, environmental destruction, and desertification which affect millions of people all over the world.

"Along with the struggle for achieving human rights in its traditional sense, we have to struggle for the rights of humanity in general," Ibrahim said. "We have a double task on our hands," he concluded.

In her address to the conference, JFBFW president Heod Abdul Jaber said the conference was organised in an attempt to help achieve the following:

— Informing and acquainting people with their individual rights as well as the collective rights of people.

— Acquainting people with the sources and origins of human rights, most notably religious and moral sources.

— Reasserting people's right to self-determination, development, peace and food security.

— Reasserting the right of the Palestinian people to liberation and self-determination.

— Eradicating all forms of racism between individuals and peoples.

— Implementing the appropriate penalties for violations of human rights.

## Prince Hassan praises university's constructive dialogue

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday voiced his appreciation of the new programmes set by the University of Jordan to promote constructive dialogue among students.

Dialogue, he said, in a message to the University President Abdul Salam Al Majali is a

method that helps the construction of the country on sound basis.

The Prince referred to his recent visit to the university and said he was proud to see the students' high morale, great spirit and true determination to work diligently in serving their country.

## Rotarians conclude annual conference, call for end to Israeli occupation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The 53rd annual conference of the International Rotary Club concluded in Amman Saturday, and decided to hold the 54th meeting in the Egyptian city of Alexandria in March 1990.

In the final session, speakers expressed their grave concern over the situation in the Israeli-held Arab territories and the repressive measures being exercised by the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian people there. The speakers referred to international laws which prohibit such inhuman treatment of civilians and which regard such actions as crimes against humanity and a violation of the United Nations charter on human rights as well as all U.N. Security Council resolutions.

The Rotarians urged all peace-loving nations and world organisations to exert all possible pressure on Israel to force it to respect international law and cease its inhuman practices in the occupied Palestinian land.

The Rotarians also called for the settlement of conflicts in Sudan and Cyprus so that peace

can be established in the Middle East region.

Dr. Nabil Hilmi from Zaqaqi University in Egypt addressed the closing session, describing the ongoing intifada as a legitimate exercise of resistance by the oppressed people of Palestine against Israeli occupation. Hilmi described Israeli practices as international crimes being committed against the Palestinian people and called for an international peace conference to settle the issue and restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

One of the working papers presented at the final day of the three-day conference came from Mr. Jamal Fakhr from Bahrain, and among the speakers in the closing session was Dr. Ibrahim Badran, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources secretary general, who tackled the subject of youth affairs in the Arab World.

The conference was opened on Thursday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

## Horticulture meeting ends

AMMAN (Petra) — The first horticulture symposium to be held in the Arab World ended in Amman Saturday with delegates recommending to Arab countries to encourage the establishment of agricultural industries.

Such industries, a statement said, would not only exploit the surplus of fruit and vegetables in the Arab World but would also aim to stabilise prices and corroborate the drive to attain food security.

The statement recommended the establishment of industries that would produce implements for the horticulture business and urged Arab states to enact legislations that would facilitate the exchange of fruits and vegetables within the Arab World.

The symposium was attended by agricultural specialists from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Sudan and Jordan, who reviewed working papers on the subject of horticulture. The meeting, organised by the University of Jordan discussed regional cooperation in the production of fruits and vegetables on a large scale in a bid to ensure food security for the Arab World.

## Canada to provide RJGC with remote sensing unit

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Canadian Agency for International Development (CAID) is to provide equipment and other materials to the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre (RJGC) in Amman to help it establish a remote sensing unit, according to an agreement signed in Amman Saturday.

The agreement, signed by the RJGC director general and the manager of a Canadian company specialising in remote sensing equipment provides for the

(CAID) to supply equipment worth 2.5 million Canadian dollars in the form of a grant. The equipment will help analyse space photographs which will be used to modernise the process of making maps and will help concerned authorities to explore mineral and water resources in the Kingdom.

In January 1989, the French ambassador to Jordan presented the RJGC with a set of equipment used in remote sensing techniques. France helped Jordan set up the RJGC by providing specialists and equipment, and by training Jordanian personnel. The centre prepared maps used by different government departments.

In 1987 a symposium was organised by the RJGC to discuss prospects of employing remote sensing techniques to prospect for mineral resources and to find underground water resources in Jordan.

The group was accompanied by an Italian television crew which shot a documentary film featuring the desert castles and other attractions. The group's visit to Aqaba and the southern parts of Jordan comes in the context of efforts by both the private and public sectors to promote Jordan as a destination for various activities, from the sun and fun of the beach to the lavish banquets in historic castles around the country.

Last month, Ministry of Tourism officials said that ministry teams were closely working with Italian tour operators and companies to organise visits to Jordan by Italian and European groups.

The group brought 30 specially designed Fiat cars with self contained camping units in addition to four trucks for servicing and catering. The group enjoyed the facilities and services provided by the Public Security Department, the Jordanian Armed Forces and the customs services.

## Italian tourists tour desert

AQABA (J.T.) — A group of 64 Italian tourists returned to Aqaba Saturday after a two-day tour of desert areas in the east and south-east during which they visited Wadi Rum, Azraq, Karak, Ghor Safi and the Dead Sea.

The group, the first of its kind from Italy to come to Aqaba under a special programme prepared by the Ministry of Tourism, arrived here on Tuesday on a four-day stay and safari tour at the invitation of the Ministry of Tourism.

The group members were reported by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as expressing their admiration at what they had seen, and promising to take steps to help market Jordan's attractions in Italy.

coated camping units in addition to four trucks for servicing and catering. The group enjoyed the facilities and services provided by the Public Security Department, the Jordanian Armed Forces and the customs services.

## Karak hosts cultural event

KARAK (Petra) — A week-long cultural programme has opened at the ancient castle of Karak featuring a book exhibition, story reading, poetry recitals and a display of historic documents.

The festival was opened by Karak Governor Mohammad Shobak who deputised for Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri. The governor distributed awards to winners of a local school competition organised by the Ministry of Education.

At the opening ceremony, several speakers outlined the historic background of the castle and underlined the importance of reading as way of developing culture and widening the scope of knowledge.

One of the aspects of the week-long festival is a tent where visitors sit and read books on different subjects.

The festival was organised in cooperation with the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives.

Visitors can enjoy documentary films tackling different cultural subjects and can attend lectures and take part in seminars, according to the organisers. They said that a special wing for selling books and publications at nominal cost, and another for selling artificial flowers were opened at the castle as part of the activities.

The opening ceremony was attended by senior officials and an audience of invited guests.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ A photography exhibition displaying photos depicting Jordan's historical and touristic sites at the University of Jordan.
- ★ An exhibition of Jordanian national heritage displaying Jordanian-made carpets and traditional costumes at the University of Jordan.
- ★ A book exhibition at the Wasfi Tal Industrial School, Irbid.
- ★ An exhibition of Jordanian-Soviet stamps at Alfa Art Gallery — 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "The Tschingel Atlas of the Middle East" at the Mu'ta University.
- ★ A photography exhibition displaying photos depicting various aspects of life in China at the University of Jordan.
- ★ An art exhibition by Iraqi artist Basim Al Sheikh which includes paintings depicting Jordanian costumes through ages and modern views of Amman at Philadelphia Hall.

### LECTURES

- ★ A lecture, in Arabic, by Dr. Adel Abdul Salam entitled "Geomorphological Determinants of Settlement Pattern in Bilad Al Shami" at the Yarmouk University — 11:00 a.m.
- ★ A lecture sponsored by Amideast on U.S. academic system, credit hours and other related topics at the American Centre — 5:00 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ A Spanish film entitled "Los Edens", shown as part of the Spanish Film Week, at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.



CHINESE PHOTOS: A week-long exhibition of photographs organised by the Chinese embassy here was Saturday opened at the University of Jordan. On display are 60 photographs depicting various aspects of life in China featuring industrial, agricultural, social and technical themes. The exhibition which was opened by the university's vice president for administrative affairs Fawzi Ghurabeh was attended by the Chinese cultural attaché in Amman, deans of various colleges and students.



JCA President Ali Abu Al Ragheb Saturday addresses the first ACC states contractors meeting. On his right sits Minister of Public Works Shafiq Zawaideh who earlier addressed the meeting (Petra photo)

## Contractors in ACC states discuss unifying laws

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of the construction sectors in Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen, members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), Saturday opened a meeting in Amman to discuss means of pooling their resources and improving and promoting the construction business in the four states.

Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh addressed the opening session, hailing the proclamation of the ACC which he said was bound to boost the economies of the four countries and enhance their march towards full integration.

The minister reviewed Arab contracting business over the past three decades and called for the contracting sectors in the four Arab countries to join forces and promote their operations.

The minister said that unified action in this matter calls for unifying laws and legislations,

pooling of resources and potentials and streamlining techniques and methods.

The minister called on the concerned authorities in the four countries to help this process by providing facilities to Arab contractors on equal footing with the foreign contractors in their own countries and to help the contracting sector to overcome financial difficulties, and to provide funds to this sector through the various Arab funds.

Mr. Ali Abu Al Ragheb, president of the Jordanian Contractors

Association (JCA) addressed the meeting referring to the vast potential of natural resources, manpower and funds in the four ACC countries, which, he said, should be merged in the overall process of integration.

He said that skilled manpower in any of the four ACC countries ought to be exploited in full, and contracting companies allowed to operate their full capacity. Abu Al Ragheb also called for the unification of legislations and laws governing the contracting business in the ACC countries.

The JCA prepared a working paper to be discussed by the two-day symposium providing a working plan for the ACC countries' contracting sectors and proposing a number of laws that could be unified to boost the status of Arab contracting sector in a bid to end dependence on foreign contractors.

## School supervisors seminar opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education Saturday opened a week-long training seminar for 60 school supervisors, designed to promote their performance and skill and help carry out the resolutions of the first national educational conference of 1987.

Addressing the opening session was Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi who said that the participants are leaders of the education process and would help in implementing the new programme

of overhauling the educational system in Jordan.

The minister said that the concept of comprehensive supervision and the educational process are complementary and intertwining, and that a supervisor ought to be fully oriented on the whole process which involves the participation of teachers and students, and entails the application of the syllabuses and the use of textbooks and practising school activity.

Dr. Oudetallah Al Qaisi, director of teachers training department delivered a speech outlining the stages through which the supervisor has to go, and his duty towards directing both teachers and students.

The Ministry of Education at present employs 360 supervisors to help direct teachers in various specialisations. They will all be taking part in the training courses initiated Saturday by the ministry to help promote their standards and their performance.

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### All sides need peace

MILITARY experts are now in agreement that Israel's technological superiority is being dramatically eroded by Arab acquisition of sophisticated long-range missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads or chemical weapons. These experts have therefore concluded that some Arab countries are pressing ahead with a multi-billion dollar military technology programme to develop missiles that can reach Israel and beyond and are giving top priority to such a programme. Such military developments are forcing Israel to reconsider its military strategy to cope with the increasing Arab military might amid clear signs that Israel's own missile programme is increasingly being geared to carry nuclear weapons that can reach the far corners of the Arab World.

Thus, while the Arab World is steadily liberating itself from Israeli military blackmail, the Arab-Israeli conflict is in turn assuming an ever more ominous proportions and dimensions. It follows, therefore, that unlike previous times and previous wars, any future war between Israel and the Arab World is projected to develop into a mass destructive military showdown where the casualty rate on both sides would be formidable and devastating on a scale hitherto unknown anywhere in the world.

It is clear therefore that both sides to the conflict have a profound vested interest to move from a posture of probable military confrontation into an era of equitable compromise and peaceful co-existence. This makes the forthcoming visits by three Middle East leaders to Washington more pressing and urgent for accelerating the peace process and averting an arms race — nuclear and otherwise — that might lead to death and destruction in the Middle East. No one in his right mind would want the next round of Arab-Israeli confrontation to be a military one. The hopes and aspirations of the Arab side are to have negotiations with Israel under U.N. auspices in which all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict would participate on equal footing. If only Washington could be persuaded to nod in agreement to the idea of negotiations under the aegis of the U.N. Security Council, the Middle East region could be saved from a carnage in which mass destructive weapons are projected to be used by both sides. That is why the peoples of the Middle East are pinning high hopes on the next round of negotiations between President George Bush and the leaders of the Middle East to move the peace process forward by expediting the convening of an international peace conference.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

The United States stand towards the Middle East question is tackled in an editorial by Al Rai' Arabic daily Saturday. The paper said that President Bush is due to receive Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who has just had a meeting with King Hussein and PLO leader Yasser Arafat over the Middle East situation and the Palestine problem. The paper said Mubarak is sure to present the Arab point of view which is backed by the world community and which advocates the idea of an international peace conference to end the Arab-Israeli conflict. On Wednesday Israel's prime minister is meeting Bush in Washington and is presenting a different view and demanding a halt to the Palestinian uprising and the election of Palestinian personalities to serve as a substitute for the PLO leaders, the paper noted. It said that Shamir is not bringing to Washington any new ideas and therefore his visit is not expected to yield any fruitful result. In view of the divergent views in the Arab and Israeli positions one can only wonder what the U.S. administration's next step will be, the paper added. It said that peace can tolerate no compromises and must be achieved through the only forum is supported by the international community.

Al Dustour daily dwelt on the same topic in its editorial and expressed hope that the series of contacts which Washington is starting in the coming week will bear fruit. The paper said that there is a degree of optimism in these contacts which Washington is starting in the coming week will bear fruit. The paper said that there is a degree of optimism in these contacts because they are engineered by a president who is viewing the situation seriously and come in the wake of very positive statements by senior American officials. Indeed the contacts, the paper added, come amidst an ongoing PLO-U.S. dialogue which is seen by many as an encouraging step leading towards the projected international conference. It is hoped that the Washington meetings will provide a good background for further positive steps on the part of the United States whose interests in the Middle East are many and whose leverage is required at the moment to make Israel respond to the call of reason and the requirements of a genuine and lasting peace, the paper concluded.

Sawt Al Shaab daily, which also commented on Mubarak's visit to the United States, said that the Arab leader will no doubt project the views of the leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council countries in general and those of King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in particular. The paper said that the Egyptian president's visit to Washington takes place against a background of an overwhelming world community support for the rights of the Palestinian people and the idea of an international peace conference. Mubarak, the paper added, will relay to Washington the unanimous Arab support for the PLO which has undertaken a pledge to move with all its force towards the aspired peace.

### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## IMF blames deficit not exchange rate

By Dr. Fahed Fawek

PEOPLE in the street and in business circles were flooded last week by false rumours that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) delegation currently in Amman was unhappy about fixing the dinar's rate of exchange since February 9, at 540 fils to the dollar, and that the IMF experts recommended to the government to further devalue the dinar, or to go back to the free floating system, and leave the exchange rate of the local currency to find its real value in the market according to supply and demand.

As a result of this wide spread rumour, the normal flow of dollars to the banking system was adversely affected, due to negative expectations for the dinar, and possible benefits from the assumed imminent decline of the dinar value against foreign currencies. The banks and financial corporations in turn started to hesitate to sell dollars to the public and to importers. Jordanian exporters and expatriates were placed under the wrong impression that they stand to gain and get more dinars for their dollars by simply waiting.

No doubt, the Central Bank and the government were aware of the rumour, they know it was not true and baseless, they realised

its negative consequences, yet they were not willing to issue an official denial due to two reasons: First, the Central Bank and the government cannot follow each rumour and issue an official correction, otherwise rumours will be taken as facts unless and until they were formally denied. Second, official denial of certain rumours may give them undeserved credibility. Some people may think that the denial is all but an evidence that there is something that needs smoke for cover.

However, it remains in the general interest of the national economy, the exporters, the expatriates, and those who deal in foreign exchange to make the full truth available so that people can base their acts on solid facts not baseless rumours. The delay of economic or financial action has a high price. It hurts all concerned, over and above the damage to the economy and public interest.

Therefore, I think it is in the interest of all concerned to reveal all the facts to the public. Based on sources very close to the IMF delegation, currently working in Jordan, the IMF experts did not

actually express any objections to the prevailing exchange rate of the dinar. They are for a real stability of the exchange rate, and they believe that 540 fils to the dollar is not unreasonable. In summary, they have no problem with the present exchange rate.

The problem, according to the informed sources close to the IMF experts, lies in the relatively big deficit in the central government budget, estimated to be 22 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). According to those experts, such deficit, if allowed to persist, will render any exchange rate impossible to work successfully or be sustainable.

The target that the IMF experts are said to be advocating is the gradual reduction of the budget deficit by around 3.5 per cent of GDP a year, for five years, until the deficit is not larger than five per cent of GDP, which is a tolerable rate that does not undermine economic and monetary stability.

We have finally to admit that previous irresponsible financial practices has a price which must be paid by the people, whether we call on the IMF for help or we don't. The price may be even higher if we don't.

## World pressure mounts on Shamir to talk to PLO

By Patrick Worsnip  
Reuters

LONDON — International pressure is piling up to convince a defiant Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that he cannot stall much longer directly or indirectly, he has to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The drive to get a Middle East peace process started is moving into a critical phase as the administration of U.S. President George Bush settles down in the wake of major concessions by the PLO on terms for a settlement with Israel.

Shamir will meet Bush in the White House Thursday. His visit will be sandwiched between those of two leading Arab leaders — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who sees Bush on Monday, and King Hussein, due on May 2.

No one expects a showdown next week between Israel and the United States, which has long been the Jewish state's principal backer, reluctant to apply more than the gentlest pressure on what it sees as a strategic ally as well as friend.

"The administration will not press Shamir at this juncture. But I believe it will change its view in the coming months. By this time next year there will be a peace process in progress," predicts Joyce Starr, a Washington-based Middle East expert.

Shamir and his supporters say they will not negotiate with the PLO, which they maintain is merely masking a long-standing aim to destroy Israel behind new talk of peace.

But latest opinion polls show a majority of both Israelis and American Jews believe Israel should sit down with the PLO, provided the organisation abstains from "terrorism," a view now clearly shared by U.S. leaders.

Signs that Washington could soon turn up the heat on Israel came this week from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who said in Morocco that a key condition for Middle East talks was "the influence and resolve of the United States with Israel."

"From my discussions with President Bush, I believe that this will be forthcoming," she added. Thatcher herself urged Israel to explore the views of its opponents — a clear reference to talks with the PLO.

The 12-nation European Community has intensified its call for an international conference to settle the Middle East problem since the PLO announced in Algiers last November that it could accept an Israeli state alongside a Palestinian one.

Three EC foreign ministers met PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in January, and French President Francois Mitterrand announced this week, to the dis-

may of Israel, that he would meet Arafat this year. Canada too, a staunch supporter of Israel, set up diplomatic contacts with the PLO this week.

The Soviet Union, meanwhile, has also signalled increased interest in the Middle East with a major tour of the region by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in February.

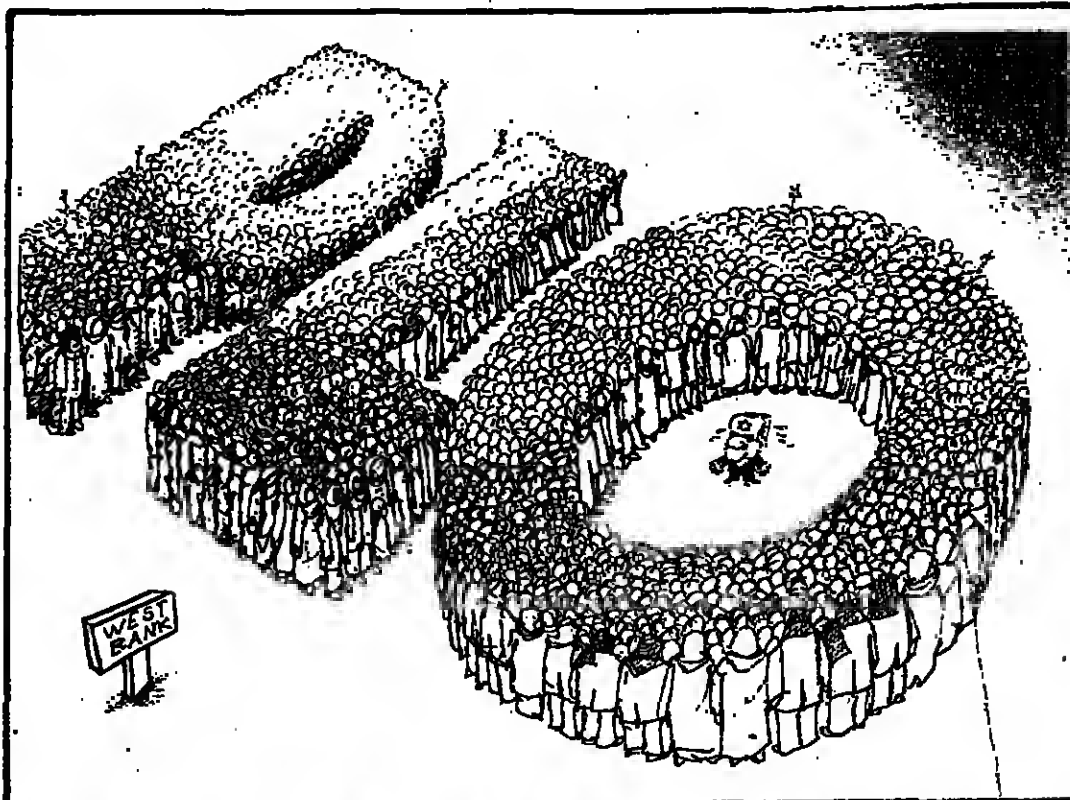
Moscow is moving towards restoring relations with Israel, severed in 1967, and appears to be qualifying its support for Syria. The effect of its moves has been to come closer to West European positions, increasing the international union.

All recognise, however, that the only voice that really counts is that of the United States, which severely jolted Israel by its decision in December to start talks with the PLO after Arafat said he was renouncing terrorism.

In these talks, conducted through the U.S. ambassador in Tunis where the bulk of the PLO is based, Washington has been urging small tension-reducing measures such as a scaling down of Palestinian attacks, on Israeli military targets.

It has been calling for similar steps by Israel and demanded new ideas from Shamir next week on the way forward in the peace process.

In an interview with the New York Times published on Friday, the Israeli prime minister said he would propose elections in the



Israeli-occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip for Palestinians to choose representatives to peace talks.

The PLO has rejected elections under Israeli occupation and has told the West Bankers to have no truck with Israeli plans to talk to "internal" Palestinians — those in the occupied territories as opposed to the "external" PLO.

Despite this, some Western diplomats say the elections "idea" might work, provided Israel accepted that those elected might be closely linked to the PLO and provided there was a clear state-

ment of the ultimate aim of the process.

"There must be linkage. The Israelis or the Americans would have to set out what it would lead to," one diplomat said. "What isn't going to work is to say: 'Let's have elections and see what happens'."

The United States differs from the EC and the Soviet Union in opposing a U.N.-sponsored international conference, at least as a way of starting talks, because of Israeli hostility. It proposes to start with direct talks between Israel and the Arabs, with

perhaps a conference later. But Washington shares the general view that, sooner or later, Israel may have to talk to the PLO, even though analysts do not expect U.S. leaders to press the point next week.

"If you can't have direct negotiations that are meaningful, that do not involve negotiations with the PLO... we would then have to see negotiations between Israelis and representatives of the PLO," Secretary of State James Baker told a congressional committee recently.

## Coloured official hacks at racism on S.African beaches

By Rich Mkhondo  
Reuters

DURBAN, South Africa — Morris Fynn has an answer to the apartheid "whites-only" signs which has him from beaches in his own city: He cuts them down with a hacksaw.

"It is no use anymore to just talk, talk and talk. I want to show those in power that the time is past for discussing ways and means of abolishing apartheid. It must go now," Fynn said.

He is especially outraged by race discrimination in Durban, the largest city in Natal province, because his British great-grandfather was one of the city's founders, as well as becoming a Zulu chief and marrying a local woman.

Classed as coloured (mixed race), Fynn is blocked from some of the best beaches where white tourists from inland Transvaal province bask in the sun.

Although the government in theory now discourages such "petty apartheid," it is reluctant to integrate all Durban beaches for fear of antagonising Transvaal voters, many of whom already support the extreme right-wing Conservative Party.

So on major holidays over the past three years Fynn has taken his saw, inscribed with the words "apartheid is not dead" toppled the signs and dumped them outside municipal offices.

Despite frequent arrests and several fights prompted by his actions Fynn is determined to continue.

"There are those people like myself who seek peaceful change through public demonstration. This apartheid we have inherited from our forefathers — it is up to us to ensure that we do not leave it to the future generation," he told Reuters.

The last time Fynn was charged with malicious damage to property was in January 1988. The 58-year-old balding local government official was given a four-month suspended sentence.

Fearing he might do it again over the Easter holiday this year, the authorities summoned him to appear in court on March 29 for cutting down apartheid signs last December, sparking fears among his supporters that this time he

may be jailed. However, Fynn obtained this Easter from attacking the signs, which say in three languages: "This bathing area is reserved for the sole use of members of the white race group."

His case was remanded for hearing at the end of June.

Fynn, who is an official on Durban's Coloured Local Affairs Committee, has also been given a suspended sentence for walking along a freeway with a placard protesting that people of other races receive much smaller old-age pensions than whites.

Fynn believes his crusade has been successful in opening most Durban beaches to all races. One victory was the beach fronting the

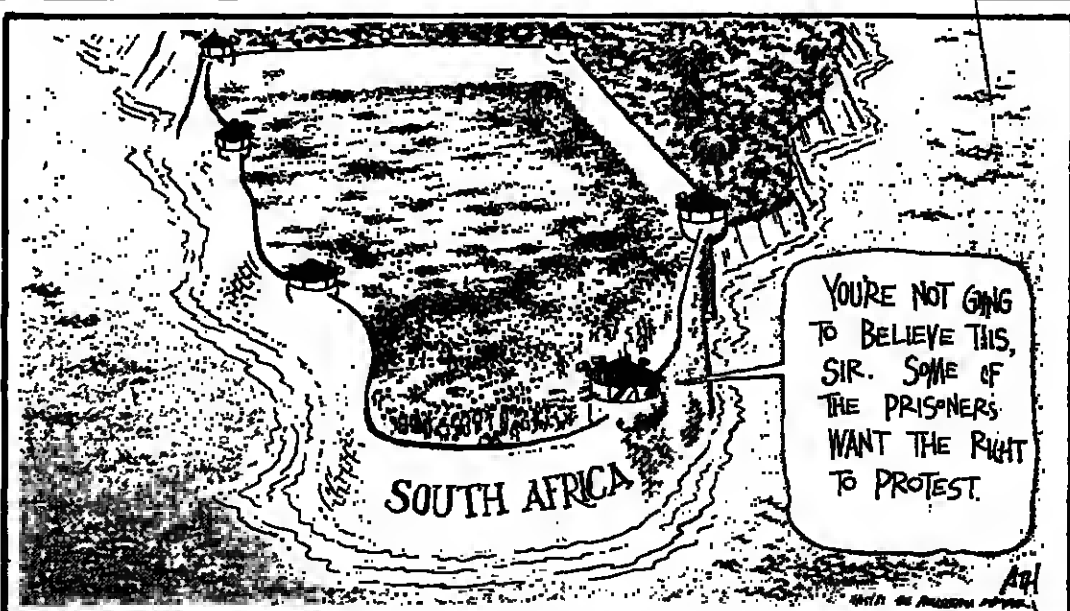
whites-only suburb of Fynlands, which is named after his ancestor, the pioneer Henry Francis Fynn.

He and his immediate family were not allowed to swim there even though it is near their home. It has since been opened to all races after Fynn repeatedly cut down the signs.

"I am a ratepayer. I object that my money could be used to impose racial discriminatory laws against me. I was entitled to swim there," he told Reuters.

"It was an affront to our dignity as human beings and as relatives that someone can tell us where we can and cannot go," he said.

Fynn says his great-great-grandfather, who arrived in Natal



province in 1820, married a Zulu to secure a black-white relationship in a bid to end hostilities between the two races.

At the time the first white settlers were living under the shadow of the terrifying Zulu chief Shaka. Henry Fynn bef-

riended Zulus fleeing from Shaka, and when they formed a tribe in Port Natal, he became the chief.

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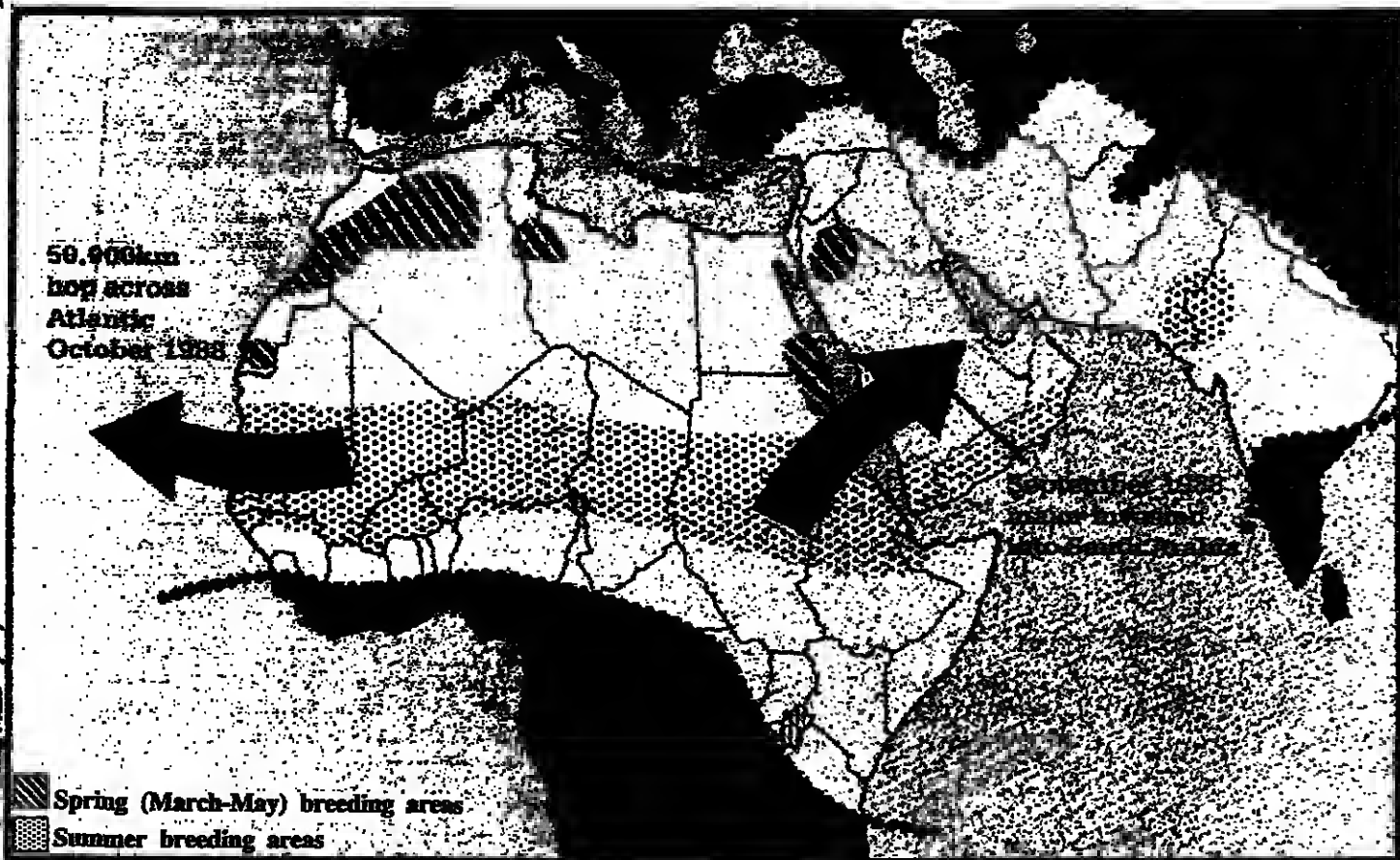
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Adult desert locusts roost on a tree.

## Ancient enemy, new threat

By Mary Lynn Hanley

ZAHRA DIA is furious. Dark eyes flashing, the head of a women's market gardening cooperative in Nouakchott, Mauritania points angrily to a withered brown vine. Stripped bare and dying, it will never yield the ripe, green melons that the women have worked so hard to cultivate in their small irrigated plots under the broiling desert sun.

"What we have planted has been destroyed by the locusts," says Dia. "They ate everything."

The women of Nouakchott are far from isolated victims. In a wide band across the upper regions of Africa, the desert locust is munching its way through every green plant in its path. Enjoying its biggest resurgence in years, the pest is threatening farmers' crops and straining government budgets from Mauritania to Somalia, and in the countries of North Africa as well. The plague has already crossed the Red Sea to invade the Arabian peninsula and Iran and there are fears that it will extend to Pakistan and India. In October, for the first time on record, desert locusts were sighted in several Caribbean countries, helped across the Atlantic by the winds of Hurricane Joan.

To protect this year's harvest, affected governments are carrying out emergency control operations, assisted by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. (FAO), a host of donor countries, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). UNDP is also investing in longer-term measures aimed at controlling the plague once and for all.

In Mauritania, the magnitude of the problem is experienced every day by a small anti-locust team outside Timbedra, 1,085 kilometres east of the capital city of Nouakchott. Here, on a sandy barren plain that stretches endlessly to the horizon, a lone helicopter sits baking under the merciless noonday sun. Several yards away a small brown tent provides some shade, but little relief from the desert heat. Inside the tent, the air smells faintly of insecticide.

The French pilot has been with the camp for two months. He reports that he can only spray between 6:30 and 10:30 a.m.



Zahra Dia (right) and other members of a Mauritania women's market gardening cooperative examine vines stripped by desert locust.

High temperatures prohibit further sorties.

The commander in charge of the camp shows off his enemy casualties. Thousands of dead locusts form a brown and yellow carpet beneath a half-eaten tree that provided their last meal.

In town—a dusty collection of low sandstone buildings—the local perfect expresses his concern. His district has just one airplane, one helicopter and limited reserves of insecticide. Only a small portion of the territory needing treatment can be covered. The team has killed many locusts, but countless others have escaped.

Some are headed west, toward Senegal. Officials there must be warned. Others have flown off to the south. If not stopped, they will endanger crops of millet, maize and sorghum. The word comes from Nouakchott to follow the easterly south, and the camp prepares to move on.

Chances are they will move again and again before the threat passes. The pests, constantly in motion in search of their next meal, continue to fly whichever way the wind blows. "Our feeling is that the plague won't be over by the end of 1988 or even perhaps the end of 1989," says Jeremy Roffey, Senior Migratory Pest Officer at the FAO in Rome.

According to Roffey, the current desert locust invasion, the worst in a generation, can be traced back to the good rains in 1985. During Africa's drought years in the 1970s and early 1980s, the desert locust kept a low profile, attracting little notice as it fed on desert scrub. But rainfall creates conditions which favour egg laying and the growth of adequate vegetation to feed the larvae. This triggers a dramatic change in the desert locust's personality. It enters its swarming phase, multiplying rapidly and travelling on the winds to agricultural areas. If conditions remain suitable, the bug will breed again in its new habitat, producing a new swarming generation to multiply once more and compound the devastation. A swarm multiplies 30-fold every time breeding occurs. When the soil is sufficiently moist, this can be at eight or nine week intervals. Under optimum conditions the pest reproduces three or four times a year.

More breeding

During 1986 the desert locust bred very successfully in the southern Sahara. In 1987 it became obvious that large numbers of desert locusts had survived the 1986-87 dry season and successful reproduction occurred once more. Swarms were also found in western Sudan and Chad and moved up into Morocco. Another wave of colonies reached Mauritania and the Western Sahara, spawning two generations. This year, good rains have again brought a verdant cover to parts of the Sahel and North Africa, allowing more breeding than usual.

Schistocerca gregaria, as the desert locust is known to scientists, is one of the mankind's oldest enemies. Carvings of the pest have been found on Sixth Dynasty Egyptian tombs dating back to 2420 B.C. The Book of Exodus tells of locusts darkening the land, leaving in their wake "neither tree nor plant of the field." In the 20th century, desert locusts destroyed 20 per cent of all subsistence crops in Kenya in 1931, and in 1958, swarms in Ethiopia devoured 167,000 tons of grain—enough to feed a million people for a year.

One tenth of the world's land surface is subject to desert locust attack. This region includes all or part of 63 countries, contains one tenth of the world's population, and produces crops valued at nearly \$25 billion per year.

Pale yellow in colour with long wings and short legs, an adult desert locust is the size of a man's finger. At its most active, it consumes its own weight in vegetation every 24 hours. It is also incredibly mobile. Using energy from stored fat, it may fly non-stop for days at a time, invading new feeding grounds thousands of kilometres away. Swarms as large as 1,000 square kilometres have been sighted, blackening skies over entire cities.

The insects are not picky eaters and will gobble up whatever vegetation is available—maize, sorghum and millet plants, pasture, trees, or the leaves from dia's vines. In a barren area of western Sudan, one voracious swarm is even reported to have been devouring the wool from local sheep.

Throughout history, methods to control the desert locust have ranged from scattering their breeding grounds with poison bait to driving them away with sticks and lighted torches. But the only effective strategy is spraying with chemical pesticides, according to Roffey. The best time to spray is when the insects are at their weakest, in the "hopper" stage, not yet able to fly, but no less hungry as they march along the ground in bands, chomping as they go.

Locust "search and destroy" operations are hampered by the fact that the creatures are widely scattered and constantly on the move. At present, civil conflicts in such countries as Sudan and Ethiopia also prevent spraying in large areas. Cost is another constraint. Large numbers of trained personnel are required to spot infestations and carry out

spraying. Short-wave radios and other communications equipment are needed to report sightings and track swarms. Pesticides must be on hand, as well as trucks and aircraft to move them. FAO estimates that \$240 million will be required for desert locust control between September 1988 and June 1989. About half of this amount is needed for pesticides.

In co-operation with national plant protecting services, FAO is closely monitoring the locust situation, pinpointing areas of infestation, and issuing frequent bulletins for the benefit of donors and affected countries. A recent step forward has been its establishment of the computer-based system called ARTEMIS (Africa Real-Time Environmental Monitoring using Imaging Satellites), which receives weather data several times a day from satellites. This information is used to prepare precipitation estimates and vegetation maps, which are essential in predicting the most likely areas for further locust outbreaks.

UNDP has provided over \$35 million since the early 1960s, helping establish a surveillance and forecasting system throughout much of the affected area. Funds have also been used to test pesticides, develop new delivery techniques, and provide spraying and communication equipment. The two largest UNDP beneficiaries have been the Organisation Commune pour la Lutte Antiacridienne et Antiaviaire, which covers West Africa, and the Desert Locust Control Organisation for Eastern Africa.

Control campaigns

UNDP has also invested in strengthening national plant protection services in affected countries. This is where the action must be focused, according to Neel Mahjoub, FAO Regional Officer for Locust Control, a 17-year veteran of the anti-locust war. From his office in Algiers, Mahjoub maintains that the desert locust has reached its present menacing state because affected countries lost interest in it during its dormant years, allowing surveillance and control programmes to decline. "People need to study the locust in its own habitat to really understand the problem," he says. "Training linked to research is essential. People in the countries themselves must take action, supported by international organisations."

North African countries such as Morocco and Algeria are doing just that. They have financed over 80 per cent of the costs of their recent control campaigns. Algeria has consistently maintained anti-locust operations since the 1960s. Radio, telephone and telex information systems are in place to report sightings. Teams are ready to carry out spraying as required. Still, Abdelkader Benadbi, Director General of the National Institute of Plant Protection, believes that it will be necessary to mobilise 200 airplanes for one month to counter the currently expected invasion, and both planes and insecticides will have to be imported. "For six months, our costs will be \$50 million," he says.

In most African countries less than 10 per cent of the costs of control can be financed from national budgets. A case in point is Mauritania, a crossroads for locust passage to other Sahelian countries and North Africa. In early October four million hectares were infested. "The stock of pesticides we have doesn't allow us to do all that is necessary," laments Achour Ould Samba, Secretary General of Mauritania's Ministry of Rural Development. "Our first priority is to protect the agricultural regions to preserve the harvest."

Mauritanian farmers have organised anti-locust committees. National Plant Protection Service teams are supplemented by forces

from the Organisation Commune pour la Lutte Antiacridienne et Antiaviaire. Non-governmental organisations such as the Lutheran World Federation are providing trucks, insecticides and personnel. Even the Mauritanian army has joined the fray. But it is not enough. "We are also counting very much on the international community," says Samba.

While the international anti-locust response has been generous, the programme is not without controversy. The main bone of contention is use of dieldrin, which Roffey maintains is the only pesticide capable of treating large populations of locusts in a short period of time. It is sprayed on desert vegetation outside

cropping areas so that the boppers kill themselves when they feed.

Carcinogenic

However, dieldrin is highly toxic and has been implicated as a carcinogen. The United States has banned it and it is no longer being commercially produced anywhere in the world. Instead, less toxic insecticides such as malathion are being applied, with mixed results. Despite extensive aerial spraying over the past year, Roffey suspects that there are still as many locusts now as there were 12 months ago.

In the wake of the current emergency, UNDP has stepped

in with an additional \$3.3 million in assistance. But it has also concluded that only a major new research effort is likely to come up with any long-term ecologically viable solution. To this end, UNDP recently convened meetings in Tucson, Arizona and Cairo to consider alternative plans of attack on the desert locust, including biological control. At the gathering in Cairo in December, participants approved a plan to set up "as a matter of urgency" a select panel of five to seven leading authorities to oversee a new global research programme. Meanwhile, the desert locust keeps eating. And the battle to protect the crops rages on.

— UNDP Journal

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## Good luck or good planning

## Morocco cuts trade deficit

RABAT (R) — Morocco's trade deficit was slashed by 20 per cent in 1988 thanks to the best harvest on record and a major leap in sales of phosphates and phosphoric acid, provisional government figures show.

The increase in exports saw growth in gross domestic product (GDP) rise 10 per cent compared to less than nine per cent the previous year.

The figures were given to an economic conference in Rabat last week, the semi-official economic weekly *La Vie Economique* reported.

Ali Amor, director of the country's Office Des Changes, told delegates the overall trade deficit had fallen to 9.6 billion dirhams (\$1.2 billion) compared to 11.9 billion (\$1.4 billion) in 1987.

He said the good economic news was largely attributable to an increase in exports of 25.6 per

cent while imports grew by only 10.6 per cent.

An increase of almost 50 per cent in sales of phosphates and its derivatives was the main factor behind improved export performance which totalled 29.4 billion dirhams (\$3.5 billion) compared to 23.4 billion (\$2.8 billion) in 1987.

The good economic news comes as the government faces a surge in wage demands after five years of an austerity programme backed by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

With inflation of 2.3 per cent, ministers have recently pro-

claimed the country has turned the economic corner after a mid-1980s balance of payments crisis prompted by a drop in world commodity prices and a succession of poor harvests.

The World Bank places Morocco eighth in its list of the most heavily indebted Third World countries with debts of \$22 billion.

Though lower than the debt of many other countries, it is higher when expressed as percentage of GDP, a key World Bank measure.

Total sales of phosphates rose by 3.6 billion dirhams (\$428 million) to 11.1 billion (\$1.3 billion) — the country's most important earner of foreign currency.

Receipts from tourism increased by 12.6 per cent to 8.3 billion dirhams (\$982 million), but money sent home from migrant workers dropped by over 20

per cent to 10.6 billion dirhams (\$1.2 billion).

The overall good performance saw Morocco register a surplus on current account of 1.8 billion dirhams (\$21 million) — the second consecutive surplus after 13 years in the red.

Critics however say the improvement in the economy is more to good luck than good planning.

"A poor harvest, a drop in the phosphate price, a few less tourists, and we're in trouble again," said professor Habbab Al Malki of Rabat University. Like many critics, he wants an increase in investment, particularly in labour intensive industries.

Unemployment remains high. Official figures say it is around 16 per cent, but the opposition say it is as high as 40 per cent in some rural areas.

## Oil prices hit new highs

LONDON (R) — World crude prices rose sharply Friday as oil companies cut shipments from Alaska following the United States worst oil spill. Towards the close of European trade, North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded international crude, was 55 cents higher from the same time Thursday at \$20.45 for prompt cargoes. The leading U.S. grade, West Texas Intermediate, jumped 70 cents to \$21.30. Dubai, the key Middle East grade, was talked about 40 cents higher at \$17.35, only just below its OPEC-set reference price of \$17.42 a barrel.

## Vietnamese rulers blame selves for inefficiencies

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Vietnam's communist rulers blame themselves for the slow progress of economic reform and said continued high levels of state subsidies had pushed inflation to dangerous levels, the official Radio Hanoi has reported.

The Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee in a communiqué blamed itself for moving slowly and falling short in carrying them out, the broadcast said.

"Controlling inflation is the most pressing task," the communiqué said. "It is a burning economic, social and political issue and a prerequisite for saving the socio-economic situation from falling into crisis."

It gave no inflation rate. In a closing speech carried by the radio, party chief Nguyen Van Linh blamed inflation on "the poor output, quality and lack of efficiency in production and business, particularly of those state-run economic units with poor achievements."

Linh said "the basic and direct reason" for inflation was central state support of the economy, a policy that "has lasted for many years and has been strikingly reflected in the excessive subsidisation through budget and credit."

"Last year, the amount of subsidies given through budget, grain trade, and import-export business alone was as high as the total of the budget deficit," he said.

Partly to control inflation, Vietnam has several times in the

## Largest Israeli electronics firm reports record losses

TEL AVIV (R) — Tadiran Ltd, Israel's largest electronics company and a subsidiary of the troubled Koor Industries, has reported record losses.

Figures published in Israeli newspapers showed the company losing \$19.8 million in 1988 compared to a \$9 million loss in 1987 which came after 20 years of profit.

The company could not be contacted for comment.

In January Tadiran said managing director Yigal Ne'eman would be replaced on April 1 by

Yosef Masyan, former head of Tadiran subsidiary Elisra and deputy managing director David Shaham and Shmariyah Shapiro would leave later this year.

Both Ne'eman and Shaham have voiced opposition to a planned scheme to decentralise management and streamline the firm's various wings into three divisions.

Tadiran, whose main products are military hardware, was hit by reduced Israeli defence spending in 1987 but has logged record orders for 1989 — including a major deal to supply radios to the U.S. army — which it hopes will return it to profit.

In addition to debts of more than \$1 billion, the company faces problems as it moves to fire 1,000 of its 11,000 workers after

having dismissed 300 in 1988. Police guarded a company briefing in Tel Aviv Thursday as workers demonstrated outside, angered by reports of high severance payments allegedly made to departing executives.

There are also pressures to extend to the Tadiran workforce austerity measures applied to employees of other companies in the Koor group.

Koor, Israel's largest industrial combine, faces a liquidation suit filed by American creditors and last year cut workers' wages by five per cent as part of a recovery plan which also entails selling off assets.

The group, of which Tadiran is the largest member, owes foreign banks a total of \$405 million. Its debt is \$135 million.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, April 1, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	84.0	84.7
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	404.7	409.2
Pound Sterling	906.0	915.4	Dutch guilder	251.5	253.4
Deutsche mark	282.9	285.9	Swedish crown	83.5	84.2
Swiss franc	323.5	326.1	Italian lira (for 100)	36.7	39.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	135.4	136.5

## Scandal, sales tax anger Japanese

TOKYO (Agencies) — Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, already battered by charges of government corruption, angered Japanese consumers Saturday by introducing a sales tax on most daily necessities.

The newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* called on Takeshita to resign both because of the three per cent sales tax and the Recruit financial scandal.

"I don't understand why they had to tax almost everything, like bread and milk," said housewife Keiko Hasegawa. "All I know is I am suddenly having to pay a lot

more for everything, and I am fed up."

Introduction of the tax, levied on necessities such as food, clothing and train fares, came a day after Takeshita admitted receiving a hefty donation from the Recruit company.

The job-placement and telecommunications firm is suspected of handing out shares, gifts and contributions to more than 100 public figures in return for political and business favours.

So far, 13 businessmen and senior bureaucrats have been arrested in the scandal, which has

already forced three cabinet ministers to resign.

Despite the pressure on Takeshita, political commentator Masaya Ito said in an interview with President magazine he believed the Japanese leader would hang on at least until upper house elections in July.

"Takeshita is a very obstinate man," Ito said. "He can take many punches. A drop in popularity is not enough for him to step down."

Only a disastrous election would convince Takeshita to step down, Ito said.

Professor Toshihiko Hara of Tokai University said Takeshita's admission that Recruit had given

20 million yen (\$154,000) to his personal political fund was damaging, but was unlikely to drive him from office.

"Every Japanese knows about these political donations — it's politics as usual," Hara told Reuters. "We have long since stopped being shocked when we hear such things."

Hara thought Takeshita would wait until initial anger over the sales tax died down, probably in two or three months, before making political decisions.

Consumers and shopkeepers tried to adjust the controversial new sales tax Saturday, as opposition parties stepped up criticism

## Turkey's 1988 growth rate crashes to 3.4%

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's gross national product growth rate crashed to 3.4 per cent in 1988 with an anti-inflationary austerity programme hitting industrial growth in the second half of the year.

The figure compared to annual inflation-adjusted gross national product growth of 7.4 per cent in 1987 and 8.1 per cent in 1986.

The State Institute of Statistics said the third estimate of 1988 growth was 3.4 per cent after its estimate of 7.2 per cent for the first half. The official target was five per cent.

Industrial growth led the way down, ending at 2.1 per cent, but agricultural growth was 6.8 per cent thanks to record harvests.

Turkey's population is growing 2.5 per cent per year.

Meanwhile, a \$200 million exchangeable loan facility for Turkey's central bank completed syndication Friday after winning commitments from a total of 27 banks, First Chicago said as arranger.

Underwriters comprise Bank of Tokyo International Ltd., Mitsui Finance International Ltd., the Sumitomo Bank Ltd and First

The seven-year facility, launched in mid-March, has a margin of 1-1/8 per cent over the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) for the first 18 months and 1 1/4 per cent over LIBOR thereafter.

Chicago as leads.

## Ireland freezes petrol prices to control inflation

DUBLIN (R) — Ireland froze petrol prices Friday after failing to persuade multinational oil companies to hold them down voluntarily.

"Two oil majors have announced big price increases in Britain and others are expected to follow."

Irish Industry and Commerce Minister Ray Burke said he imposed the freeze reluctantly. "We had an amicable meeting, but the companies felt they could not agree with my suggestion. As a result, I have issued a maximum prices order and there will be no increase next week."

## Italy narrows trade gap but inflation edges higher

ROME (R) — Italy's foreign trade deficit fell sharply in February to 2.07 trillion lire (\$1.5 bil-

lion), less than half the record for one month set in January, official figures showed Friday.

But inflation rose in March for the fifth consecutive month, the National Statistics Institute (Istat) said.

The data, bringing mixed news for the government, was published as Treasury Minister Giuliano Amato briefed the cabinet on the buoyant performance of the economy in 1988, when growth accelerated to 3.9 per cent from three per cent in 1987.

The fall in the February trade deficit from a 4.29 trillion lire (\$3.1 billion) January shortfall was due to a strong upturn in exports and a stabilisation in the high level of imports. The strongest export sectors were engineering, chemicals, textiles and cars, Istat said.

Consumer price inflation, which has accelerated rapidly in recent months from its low of 4.7 per cent year-on-year last October, edged still higher to 6.4 per cent in March from 6.3 per cent in February, Istat also reported.

Amato told the cabinet that the economy had performed well during 1988, with the gross domestic product (GDP) rising 3.9 per cent, fuelled by strong internal demand both from consumers and for industrial investment.

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URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
INVITATION TO BID  
TENDER NO. (5/W3/89)

Date: April 2nd, 1989  
Loan No.: 2441 - JO  
Bid No.: 5/W3/89

1. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank (IBRD) in various currencies towards the cost of a Third Urban Development Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contract for SHALLALAH NORTH BOYS' COMPULSORY SCHOOL. Bidding is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries as defined under the "Guidelines for Procurement" of the (IBRD) who have been pre-qualified and local Contractors classified by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the first and second grade Buildings.

2. The Urban Development Department (UDD) now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for furnishing the necessary labour, materials, equipment and services for the construction and completion, of the following:  
Boys' Compulsory School consisting of a three storey Building with built up area about 1050 square metres. Individual toilet block consisting of one storey building with built up area of about 150 square metres. Site Works and Infrastructure.

3. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the head of Tendering Division, and inspect the bidding documents at the offices of the UDD, UDD Marka Housing Project, Amman.

Telephone: 899361/62/63  
P.O. Box: 927198  
Amman - Jordan  
Telex: 22249 UDD JO

4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible Bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD (100). Additional sets of documents may be purchased each at the same price.

5. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in an acceptable form of not less than (10,000) JD and must be delivered to the Director General, UDD, P.O. Box 927198, Amman - Jordan on or before 12:00 noon local time, on May 2nd, 1989.

6. Bids will be opened in the presence of those Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12:00 noon local time, on May 2nd, 1989, at the offices of the UDD, UDD Marka Housing Project, Amman.

Telephone: 899361/62/63  
P.O. Box: 927198  
Amman - Jordan  
Telex: 22249 UDD JO

Director General  
Dr. Hisham Zagha

## AMMAN TRANSPORT AND MUNICIPAL

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (LOAN NO. 2334 - JO)

The Municipality of Greater Amman intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above Loan to Food Testing Laboratory Equipment.

Tender documents can be available as of Sunday, April 2nd, 1989, for a non-refundable fee of JD 80.000 from:

The Tenders Department  
Municipality of Greater Amman  
P.O. Box 132  
Amman - Jordan  
Telex: 21969 AMCITY-JO

Closing date for accepting bids is Monday 15th May, 1989 at 11:00 at the same address mentioned above. Bids will be opened one hour after the closing date.

## To UTA Arlington Alumni and Former Students of Dr. Noel J. Everard

This is to inform you all of the retirement of Dr. Everard after 29 years of teaching at the University of Texas at Arlington. We are assembling a scrap book of former students and would love to include you in our endeavours. Just send a letter with a brief description of what you are doing along with a message to Dr. Everard. The surprise reception is May 27, 1989 at 7:30 p.m. at the Joe Rady Room on the 6th floor of the new Engineering Building. Wish that you were all able to attend but your letters will help make the evening very memorable. Please forward your letters by April 30, 1989. You can send your letters in care of:

Terry Khamdash  
2410 Villanova Street  
Arlington, Texas 76018



## SPORTS IN BRIEF

## RAC Speed Trials

At trials completed on the drivers training circuit at the Royal Automobile Club Friday, the following standings were established:

1. Yanal Kumuk	1. min. 50.07 seconds
2. Sinan Sandi	1.54.58
3. Hissam Mufti	1.54.82
4. Ahmad Kumuk	1.55.00
5. Ghazi Bilal	1.55.06
6. Ma'ruf Abu Samra	1.56.73

45 cars took part. Trophies were presented by Yanal Bustami.

## German veteran Kaltz to join Bordeaux

HAMBURG (R) — Hamburg's Manfred Kaltz, West Germany's longest-serving league player, is to move to France's struggling Bordeaux next season, his first major transfer in more than 18 seasons in top-class soccer. The 36-year-old defender, capped 69 times for West Germany, said Saturday he had agreed on a two-year deal with the French first division club. Last month he broke the Bundesliga's appearance record when he played his 553rd game for Hamburg. At Bordeaux, Kaltz will join another veteran — French league appearance record-holder Dominique Dropsy. The 38-year-old former international goalkeeper was set to play his 594th French first division game Saturday night.

## Guignard loses medal after dope test

GENEVA (R) — French skier Christelle Guignard was Friday stripped of the bronze medal she won in last month's world championship giant slalom in Vail, Colorado, following a positive dope test. International Ski Federation (FIS) spokeswoman Sonja Reichen said two separate tests had proved positive and the bronze medal would now go to Mateja Svet of Yugoslavia who finished fourth. Guignard protested her innocence. "I am a victim and I intend to fight to prove it," she told the French sports daily L'Equipe. "I was tired after the selection runs for the slalom. I was given two tablets to swallow two days before the giant in Vail. Maybe I was not cautious enough. The French team medical staff is to blame; definitely, and I accuse them. The mistake has been acknowledged by the French federation's communiqué."

## Prost proposes mobile hospital

PARIS (AP) — Formula One racing driver Alain Prost has proposed forming a mobile rescue hospital following AGS-Ford driver Philippe Streiff's crash while testing tires in Brazil, the French sports paper L'Equipe reported Friday. Streiff, 33, now in intensive care in a Paris hospital, is likely to remain tetraplegic.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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## ARE YOU A WINNING PAIRS PLAYER?

Neither vulnerable. South deals.		spade rebid would have shown an unbalanced hand.	
NORTH		West leads the queen of hearts, and there's no point to a hold-up play. You have eight fast winners, and any extra tricks you make will have to come from the spade suit. If you were playing rubber bridge, you would take the safety play of cashing a high spade and then leading to the jack. That nullifies any 4-1 split. Do you make the same play at duplicate?	
♠ 9 5 2	♠ 10 8 7	Chances of a 3-2 split are about 68 percent, and two times in five you will find a doubleton queen, giving you about a 27 percent chance of scoring five tricks in spades. It might seem that, since a 4-1 break will crop up about 28 percent of the time, you should take the safety play.	
♥ 8 6 2	♥ 5 4	However, in 40 percent of those cases, you will find either a singleton ten or queen, which still allows you to make your contract, reducing the danger of a 4-1 distribution to about 17 percent. And since you will make the same number of tricks as those declarers who land up in a spade contract, that feature doesn't come into consideration. So cash the ace-king of spades and go down like everyone else who specializes in pair events.	
♦ 7 5 4	♦ 10 9 8 7	The bidding:	
♣ 9 8 2	♣ 10 9 8 7	South	West
♠ 9 5 2	♠ 10 8 7	1 ♠	Pass
♥ 8 6 2	♥ 5 4	2 NT	Pass
♦ 7 5 4	♦ 10 9 8 7	3 NT	Pass
♣ 9 8 2	♣ 10 9 8 7	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠  
Do you think you are one of the country's great duplicate stars, just waiting to be discovered? Test yourself by covering up the East-West cards then decide how, after the lead of the queen of hearts, you would play three no trump on this holding, and why.  
Your jump bid to two no trump is classic — 19 points and a square hand. Note that North had no way to suggest a four-spade contract in standard methods; a new suit or a



Her Majesty Queen Noor pictured Thursday with members of the Jordan Tennis Federation. The Queen watched training session of the young players and awarded a trophy to one promising young player.

## Seoul organisation disbands

SEOUL (AP) — The 1988 summer Olympic games in Seoul made a record \$497 million profit, more than double the profit achieved by the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, organisers said Wednesday.

The figure was about \$125 million more than estimates announced by organisers right after the summer games ended.

The Seoul Olympic organising committee disclosed the figure in a final report Wednesday, preceding its disbandment next week.

According to the report, the Seoul Olympics, the largest games in Olympic history, produced a record \$497 million profit. The previous record was \$223 million at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Seoul's final tally put earnings at \$987.5 million with expenditures of \$847.7 million, yielding a book profit of only \$139.8 million. But in line with international practice, the official balance sheet did not include cash contributions from individuals and social and business groups, which amounted to \$355.4 million, committee officials said.

Including the cash contributions, SLOOC's overall income totalled \$1.33 billion, creating a net profit of \$497 million, the officials said.

Television rights brought in \$332 million, followed by \$199.8 million from sales of commemorative coins and medals, \$175.8 million from lotteries, and \$105.5 million from insignia sales, the officials said.

Also contributing to the income was \$161.5 million in commissions from the sales of apartments to individuals after they were used by some 14,000 athletes from 160 nations who took part in the games.

However, critics doubt that the Seoul games actually generated a profit for South Korea because the balance sheet does not include an estimated \$1.5 billion the South Korean government spent on building or expanding stadiums, roads and subways.

## NBA Roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — Derek Harper scored 29 points, including a layup that tied the game with 1:37 to go, as the Dallas Mavericks beat the Indiana Pacers 105-102 Friday and snapped the National Basketball Association's longest current losing streak at 12 games.

The victory was the Mavericks' first during their current four-game road trip and halted the franchise's longest losing streak since 1981.

After Harper's basket, a free throw by Lasalle Thompson, who finished with 23 points and 12 rebounds, put Indiana ahead 99-97.

But the Mavericks used four straight free throws from Sam Perkins and Rolando Blackman to take the lead for good 101-98 with 43 seconds remaining.

Bernard King celebrated his new two-year contract by scoring 30 points to lead the Washington Bullets to their 12th straight victory, 107-105 over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Dominique Wilkins scored 31 points and Moses Malone 27 even though both sat out the final quarter as the Atlanta Hawks beat the New Jersey Nets, 116-99.

Charles Barkley's 24 points and 15 rebounds led the Philadelphia 76ers in a 114-93 rout of the Miami Heat.

Kevin McHale, sidelined for

the previous three games with a right foot injury, scored 30 points as the Boston Celtics went four games over .500 for the first time this season, beating the Houston Rockets 126-109.

Mark Price and Ron Harper combined for nine points during the fourth quarter as the Cavaliers ended the Chicago Bulls' six-game winning streak with a 109-100 victory.

Mitch Richmond scored 37 points, six of them during a decisive 12-0 run in the fourth quarter, and Chris Mullin added 34 points for the Golden State Warriors, the only team in the NBA the New York Knicks didn't beat this season. The final score: Warriors 134, Knicks 114.

Tom Chambers scored 34 points and Eddie Johnson had 28, including a club-record six 3-point goals, as the Phoenix Suns beat the Milwaukee Bucks 122-104.

John Salley's two free throws with 53 seconds put Detroit ahead to stay as the Pistons overcame a 25-point deficit and beat the Seattle SuperSonics 111-108.

Quintin Dailey scored 11 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter as Los Angeles hung on to beat the San Antonio Spurs 109-106 for the Clippers' third straight victory, their longest winning streak in three years.

## FORECAST FOR SUNDAY

## YOUR HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Research other opinions before starting a new project that can be beyond your ability to complete. Focus on nature, animals, flowers, music and all forms of beauty.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try out some stimulating action whereby you can work off excess energy. Take charge of a situation that is hard to handle.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) What you need comes by way of a loving companion. What you don't need comes by way of a troublemaker.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) New friends enter the picture while old friends wonder what has happened to you. Be safety-conscious while in motion.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You awake to difficult questions that are troubling you. Work on a mutual family project. Talk to parents for practical advice.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Go for the social connection that you dream about. Staying in the old rut can affect your disposition. People share pleasure with you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Someone who has caused friction in the past reappears in your social

arena. It is best to avoid tacky situations.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your determination to succeed is admirable. Enjoy youthful companions. A friend brings you encouraging news.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) When it comes to effort, you win first place. You are in control and can get what you want. You are free to be yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may prefer to be alone today. You can put order into personal projects. Trust your insight into matters that are elusive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You enjoy home, studies, added financial security and work curriculum that is challenging. You finish something important that was stagnant.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Old friends are important. Gather them together for an informal social meeting. It is a happy day to be with those whom you love.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Embrace have you on the go. Not much will be accomplished today in spite of your organized effort. Accept things with ease and good humor.

## Liverpool edges closer to victory

LONDON (AP) — Liverpool, 18 points off the pace just one month ago, continued its late-season charge Saturday as Ronnie Whelan's goal earned a 1-0 victory at title rival Norwich and pushed the defending league champion into second place in the standings.

"It has put us a bit nearer (league leader) Arsenal," Whelan, the Liverpool captain, said after the game, one of the most important of the season. "We've got a more settled squad now and it helps build confidence."

Liverpool, unbeaten in the English First Division since Jan. 1, leapfrogged over Norwich into second place on 57 points, just two behind Arsenal, as it swept to its ninth successive victory.

Arsenal tries to hold on to top place on Sunday in a televised match against Manchester United.

Norwich, the underdog which led the standings for much of the present season, slipped to third place on 56 points.

Both the teams playing in next weekend's league cup final, the

first domestic trophy to be settled, were beaten. Nottingham Forest was trounced 4-1 at Wimbledon while Luton went down 2-1 at Aston Villa and plummeted into the relegation-threatened bottom three places.

Elsewhere in the First Division, it was Charlton 2, Middlesbrough 0; Derby 1, Coventry 0; Everton 4, Queens Park Rangers 1; Sheffield Wednesday 3, Millwall 0; Southampton 1, Newcastle 0 and Tottenham 3, West Ham 0.

In Scotland, Glasgow Rangers won 2-1 at arch-rival Glasgow Celtic, swept to a four-point lead in the Premier Division standings and emerged as strong favorite to win the title.

Liverpool's victory over Norwich, courtesy of Whelan's 20th-

minute strike, was more convincing than the 1-0 scoreline.

The defending champion had far too much technique and imagination for a Norwich team that was never allowed to produce the quick-passing play that has made it a surprise championship contender this season.

Liverpool steamrollered its way towards an 18th league title — and the seventh during the 1980s — with another stylish performance against one of the challengers to its throne. The champions' dazzling display of inventiveness, backed up by a sound defence and prodigious work-rate, outclassed Norwich. Liverpool took a stranglehold on mid-field and refused to let go in the face of Norwich's attempted second-half fightback. Whelan's goal, however, was all Liverpool had to show for its superiority.

The Republic of Ireland international midfielder struck after 20 minutes, whipping in a 10-yard shot after an attacking run by fullback Steve Staunton on the left. Steve McMahon should have scored a second goal four minutes

into the second half, but his chip over keeper Brian Gunn was a yard wide of the post. John Barnes squandered an even better opportunity after 56 minutes when he missed from five yards. 26,338.

## Wimbledon 4, Nottingham Forest 1 (2-1)

Forest received the worst possible curtain-raiser to next weekend's league cup final as it crashed to only its second defeat in 22 games, including 10 straight on-the-road wins. Lawrie Sanchez put Wimbledon on its way in the 10th minute and four minutes later, Paul Miller made it 2-0. Nigel Clough pulled Forest back into contention after 31 minutes with a sweeping shot from Steve Hodge's cross and Forest almost tied it when Stuart Pearce brought a flying save out of Wimbledon keeper Hans Segers. But Wimbledon reasserted itself for the whole of the second half and sealed the points 11 minutes from time when John Fashanu restored its two-goal advantage.

## Sweden wins 5-4 over S. Korea

DORTMUND, West Germany (R) — Sweden had Mikael Appelgren to thank for a magnificent victory over South Korea at the world table tennis championships Friday in a marathon meeting lasting more than five hours.

European champion Appelgren won all three of his matches, including the deciding ninth rubber against Kim Taek-Soo, as Sweden beat South Korea 5-4 in a second round group match.

"I think it will be very hard to beat Sweden in the rest of the tournament," coach Glenn Osth, who has led the team to the silver medal at the last three world championships, said afterwards.

China's world singles champion Jiang Jialiang was taken to three games by Hungary's Zolt Kriston but the defending title holder won their match 5-1 with newswoman Ma Wenjie the only loser, beaten 18-21, 21-13, 22-20 by Zolt Horvath.

Sweden, the European champions, went 2-0 up when Appelgren beat Olympic silver medal-

list Kim Ki-Taek in straight games and Jan-Ove Waldner defeated Kim Taek-Soo 21-16, 18-21, 21-15.

But then Erik Lindh, playing well below his best, suffered the first of his three defeats of the evening when world champion Yoo Nam-Kyu beat him 21-19, 14-21, 21-11.

But Osth, whose team beat South Korea 5-4 at both the 1987 and 1983 World Championships, was not critical of Lindh, who won the bronze medal in the Seoul Olympics.

"It seemed strange to me that he could lose three games but I am just satisfied that Appelgren could take three when it was necessary," he said.

Hosts West Germany's hopes of reaching Sunday's quarter-finals were all but extinguished when they were beaten 5-2 by unseeded Belgium.

West Germany, drawn in the same group as China, must beat Hungary Saturday and hope the

Hungarians defeat Belgium by a big margin to have mathematical chance of going through. The top two teams from each group advance.

Coach Zlatko Cordas said his players had been distracted by fans cheering and shouting for Sweden and South Korea on a neighbouring table.

"It is unbelievable in Germany but the whole hall was watching the Sweden-South Korea match and not us," he said.

National champion Jean-Michel Saive was Belgium's hero, winning all three of his matches including the final three-game rubber against Joerg Rosskopf, who was third in last year's European championships.

Chan Tan Liu and Chai Po Wa virtually secured a quarter-final place for Hong Kong in the women's event with impressive victories over European champions the Soviet Union and world bronze medalists Hungary.

At the Commonwealth championships last week Chan and

Chai, both Chinese born, were the subject of an anonymous letter which alleged they had not been resident in Hong Kong long enough to be eligible for the team.

But International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) officials said they were happy for the two women to compete.

Chan won all her matches Friday, beating two former European champions — the Soviet Union's Valentina Popova in three games and Csilla Batorfi of Hungary in two.

Kwon Mi-Sook proved a worthy replacement for Yang Young-Ja in the South Korean doubles pair, helping Hyun Jung-Hwa to complete two 3-0 victories against Taiwan and the United States.

Yang, who won the world and Olympic doubles title with Hyun, retired recently, leaving the burden of leading the world silver medalists to her 19-year-old former partner.

## Lendl — walkover, Muster — runover

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (AP)

Top seed Ivan Lendl continued his straight-set streak Friday by sweeping Kevin Curren in the semifinals of the International Players championships.

Lendl won 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 in one hour, 50 minutes. He was yet to lose a set in six rounds.

"It's easy to play when you're healthy, relaxed and confident," he said.

"I like my chances, but it doesn't really matter that much," Lendl said. "If I lose, I'm not going to lose any sleep over it."

"I've done well in Australia (he won), and that's good enough for me until the French."

Curren, seeded 15th, was unable to capitalize on his first semifinals berth in a two-week tournament since 1985. Only 51

per cent of Curren's first serves were good, which neutralized his best weapon. He also had trouble putting away shots at the net, and said Lendl messed up his rhythm.

"Normally it works the other way — I don't give the opponent any rhythm," Curren said. "Today it felt like that for me. ... He left me a little confused."

Curren lost the last four games of the first set and the last six games of the second set. In the final set, he scored six points in Lendl's five service games.

"Nobody has really tested him," Curren said. "That's what I had hoped to do. Then you get the tentative Ivan Lendl. ... He's loose and he's having a good time."

The first service break came in the sixth game, when Lendl

chased down a lob over his head and hit a brilliant backhand winner for a 4-2 lead. He was in control of the match thereafter.

Lendl improved his record this year to 19-1, his best start since 1986. He won this tournament that year.

## Freak car crash

MIAMI (R) — Austrian Thomas Muster severely injured a knee ligament in a freak car accident Friday and will miss Sunday's International Players championship tennis final against Ivan Lendl.

A tournament spokesman said Muster would undergo surgery on Saturday for a severely torn medial collateral ligament in his left knee and the prognosis for a full recovery was excellent.

"But we're talking about four to six weeks in a cast and three to four months of rehabilitation," the spokesman said.

Seventy-seeded Muster was injured Friday night shortly after beating Frenchman Yannick Noah 5-7, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 in the semifinals.

He was removing his tennis kit from the boot of a car when another vehicle struck in head-on, causing the Austrian's car to run over him.

"The car moved backward and I was pushed underneath," Muster said.

Police said the vehicle that hit Muster's car was travelling at about 100 kph.

Muster's injury is a blow to Austria's chances of beating last year's Davis Cup finalists Sweden.

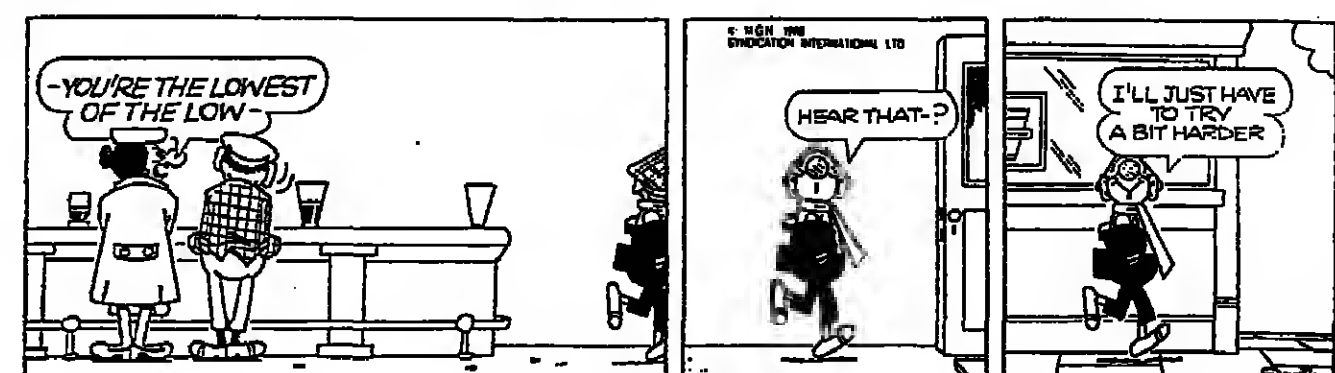
## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff

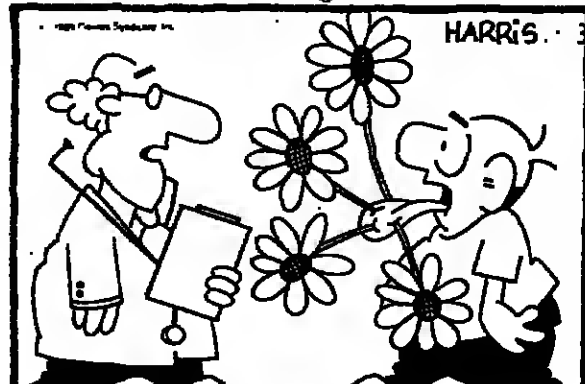


## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Instead of munching fattening snacks, you've been sucking on sunflower seeds?"

## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumble words to form one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INNEL

BOMUX

CRASAF

ILCAME

What they expect when the life of the party finally went home.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: " (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumble: NAME KNIFE LOCALE SCURRY

Answer: He believed in marrying a woman for her looks, especially when it did this — RAN INTO MILLIONS



## Polish government approves sweeping political reforms

WARSAW (R) — Poland's Communist rulers have approved sweeping reforms to transform the country's political system, end their monopoly in power and allow the banned Solidarity trade union to be legalised.

"We are crossing an historic threshold," a Communist Party spokesman said Friday after the party's Central Committee, its policy-making body, passed a resolution endorsing reforms thrashed out at seven weeks of government-opposition talks.

"It is a process of agreement and reforms which has recently been accelerated and has a revolutionary character," spokesman Jan Bisztyga said.

Agreements at the talks include liberalisation of electoral laws allowing the opposition into the Lower House of Parliament and creation of a democratically elected Senate (Upper House) and a president elected by both chambers.

Under the agreements, the party would lose its majority in parliament for the first time since Soviet Dictator Josef Stalin installed the Communists in power in Poland in 1944.

The reforms also allow the legalisation of Solidarity, suppressed under martial law in 1981 after it challenged Communist rule, and liberalisation of the right to association.

They are intended to pull Poland out of political and economic crisis and reduce the threat of popular unrest.

"The Central Committee accepted the agreements reached so far at the round table (talks) over the major issues of speeding up and defending the reforms," the resolution said.

It said the changes followed guidelines issued by the 230-member Central Committee in January for the creation of "a citizen's society and a state based on Socialist parliamentary democracy and the rule of law."

The Central Committee said it hoped the talks, which are scheduled to conclude next week,



would lead to a social accord being signed and that issues would be solved responsibly to guarantee the stability of the new political and economic system.

This appeared to be an appeal to Solidarity not to allow a return to the "anarchy" which Communist officials say developed during the union's 16-month legal life in 1980-81.

## Gunbattles reported along northern border

# Namibia takes final steps to independence

WINDHOEK, Namibia (AP) — Police blocked thousands of blacks from marching into Namibia's capital, and South Africa reported gunbattles along the northern border Saturday, the start of the U.N.-supervised transition to independence.

South Africa's foreign minister, P. W. Botha, said two groups of 30 to 40 armed men crossed into Namibia from Angola and clashed with territorial police. He said some policemen were injured and some of the invaders were killed, but he declined to identify the attackers.

Saturday marked the formal start of the United Nations' role in monitoring the campaign for pre-independence elections and the start of a cease-fire between South Africa and the South-West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) which has been waging a guerrilla war for independence since 1966.

There had been no fighting since September between the forces, which were restricted to their bases as of midnight Friday under U.N. Resolution 435. The 11-year-old resolution establishes a process for elections leading to independence early next year for Africa's last territory, ruled by South Africa since World War I.

Botha said that the gunbattles "created an extremely serious situation" and that he notified U.N. officials.

At a military base in Wind-

persuaded the crowd to return to Katutura, where several celebration rallies were held.

Later, some 400 SWAPO supporters arrived in downtown Windhoek and held a rally across from a luxury hotel. About 30 policemen watched but did not interfere.

After chanting "the struggle continues," and "SWAPO, we win," the demonstrators marched on the main road back toward Katutura.

Chand, whose military contingent was to deploy throughout the territory, put on his uniform for the first time Saturday to preside over the U.N.-flag-raising ceremony.

Until independence, administration of the territory and responsibility for law enforcement would remain in the hands of Administrator-General Louis Pienaar, appointed by South Africa.

Pienaar said one of his first proclamations would make it easier for people to hold rallies without interference by police. But he said the proclamation was not intended for Saturday, when emergency regulations prohibiting unauthorised rallies remained in force.

Pienaar said he would try to allow unrestricted political activity during the period leading to November elections for a constituent assembly.

## COLUMN

### Long trek in store for a camel

DUBAI (R) — Deserts hold no fears for Ali Al Humaidi in his plan to circle the globe — he's going to do it by camel. Al Bayan newspaper said Monday that Humaidi, from the United Arab Emirates, will start next month and expects to return 18 months later.

### Bhutto expecting second child

KARACHI (AP) — Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, the first woman to lead a Muslim nation, is expecting her second child in October, family sources said last week. Bhutto's first child, Bilawal, was born last Sept. 21. A month later Bhutto propelled her left-of-centre Pakistan People's Party to an election victory in the country's first free polls in more than a decade. The prime minister's marriage in December 1987 was said to have been an arranged one, in line with strict tradition. She married Asif Zardari, a prominent landowner from Pakistan's gas-rich western province of Baluchistan. They were married at Bhutto's rambling family home in this seaport city of nine million.

## The weather at major world capitals & cities

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	05	14	57° Cloudy
ATHENS	09	28	73° Clear
BAHRAIN	14	27	70° Clear
BANGKOK	27	81	80° Clear
Buenos Aires	14	27	57° Clear
CAIRO	11	25	77° Clear
CHICAGO	01	33	27° Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	01	34	32° Clear
FRANKFURT	10	21	70° Clear
GENOVA	06	23	63° Clear
HONG KONG	23	25	77° Clear
ISTANBUL	11	20	68° Clear
LONDON	09	12	54° Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	15	28	68° Clear
MADRID	05	16	61° Cloudy
MECCA	20	86	99° Cloudy
MIAMI	22	71	80° Clear
MONTREAL	01	30	36° Cloudy
MOSCOW	04	25	37° Cloudy
NEW DELHI	19	36	90° Clear
NEW YORK	03	39	62° Clear
PARIS	13	22	71° Cloudy
ROME	10	26	79° Cloudy
SEOUL	11	21	70° Clear
VIENNA	10	20	68° Rain

## World media assaults Havana

HAVANA (R) — The U.S. television networks, armed with almost enough cable to link Havana directly with the United States, are betting heavily that superpower politics and exotic Cuban locations will draw millions to their TV sets.

Their competitors worldwide are not far behind, with news agencies and broadcasters pouring staff and equipment into Havana ahead of Mikhail Gorbachev's arrival Sunday.

In all more than 1,000 journalists are expected, Soviet press officials say.

The Soviet Union has also cranked up its media machine. Frequent Soviet briefings have begun and 44 members of the Moscow press corps have been provided with briefing kits and lots of leg room on "Glasnost II," the Ilyushin press jet that landed in Havana Thursday.

The authorities say more than 600,000 spectators will line the 16-kilometre motorcade route for Gorbachev's arrival, in the first visit to Cuba by a Soviet leader since 1974. The media giants hope to hit

viewers with a one-two punch: The contrasting styles of the freshly-tailored Soviet leader and the combat-ready Fidel Castro, backed by rare reporting from Cuba.

Three major U.S. networks — ABC, CBS and NBC — are set to broadcast their main nightly news shows from Cuba next week. A fourth, CNN, is preparing daily reports from Havana with some live coverage but has no plans to base regular newscasts there.

"The Gorbachev visit is replete with important symbol-

ism," said Peter Jennings, presenter for ABC's nightly news programme, who is returning to Cuba for the first time in 20 years.

"Castro is always fascinating, and now people are looking for a sign of (future) Soviet behaviour in Latin America," Jennings said from ABC headquarters in New York.

The networks have taken over the wings of the Havana Libre Hotel, home base for the international media, and white satellite dishes have sprouted up around it.

## 'Farewell to Zita'

VIENNA (AP) — Thousands of people converged on Vienna's city centre Saturday to pay final respects to Europe's last empress, Zita, who was buried with all the panegyric of a monarchy that vanished more than 70 years ago.

In an outpouring of sentiment for the Hapsburg Empire that crumbled after World War I, up to 2,000 people an hour moved by the velvet-draped coffin after it was brought Friday to the landmark St. Stephen's cathedral.

Souvenir sellers outside the cathedral did a brisk trade in portraits of Zita as a young beauty and T-shirts to mark the occasion.

Austria's largest circulation newspaper, the tabloid Neue Kronen Zeitung, filled its front page with a photograph of hundreds of mourners waiting to file past the coffin and the simple headline, "Farewell to Zita."

The headline ran against a background in yellow, the colour of the imperial House of Hapsburg.

Zita's funeral — on the anniversary of the death of her husband, Emperor Charles I, in exile in 1923 — is planned as the biggest since the still-existing empire buried Karl's father, Emperor Franz Joseph, in 1916.

Zita's coffin is to be taken to the imperial vault on the same horse-drawn hearse that carried Franz Joseph's body there.

Zita died two weeks ago in Switzerland at age 96. After the

collapse of the monarchy in 1918, Zita and her husband were forced into exile.

Royalty, aristocracy and dignitaries from throughout Europe were expected to attend the final requiem, the climax of a week of ceremonies.

Dozens of wreaths were placed outside the cathedral bearing the condolences of European aristocracy, and private organisations such as the Austrian monarchists and the Pan-European Union.

People had to wait in line for over an hour to get close to the coffin to say a prayer, lay flowers or just to see a royal coffin up close.

Saturday's ceremonies were expected to draw tens of thousands of spectators, including visitors from the far corners of what was once the monarchy, lands now in Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Italy.

In Budapest, a ceremonial mass was scheduled Monday at the Matthias church by Laszlo Cardinal Paskai. Charles I was coronated Charles IV of Hungary in Budapest in 1916.

Hungarians gave a rousing welcome to Zita's son Otto von Habsburg when he paid his first official visit to Hungary last month in his capacity as a member of the European Parliament.

With Hungary's liberal travel laws introduced last year, it was considered likely that many Hungarians would come Saturday for the ceremony.

## Peru rebels kill 26 in village massacre

LIMA (R) — Maoist rebels invaded an Andean village Friday and killed at least 26 members of a peasant militia force, nine of them women, Peruvian police said.

At least 11 other people were killed in another area of the country in a clash between the Shining Path guerrillas and police, authorities said.

Police said about 70 guerrillas moved into the Andean village of Carhuapampa before dawn and rounded up members of the local anti-guerrilla militia, killing them with guns, knives and dynamite charges.

At least five peasants were wounded in the attack in Ayacucho Department, cradle of Shining Path's nine-year-old guerrilla war against the Peruvian government.

Police in northern La Libertad department reported that at least 11 people, including one policeman, were killed in a clash between police and Shining Path guerrillas in the town of Huacrahuco early Friday.

The victims included several residents of the town caught in the crossfire, police said. Residents said the heavily-armed guerrillas looted several stores and looked for the town's



mayor with the aim of killing him, but he had fled, police said.

Peasant militias, known as civil defence committees, have openly opposed the guerrillas, in part because the rebels forcibly recruit teenagers from Andean villages into the rebel forces.

Shining Path, or Sendero Luminoso in Spanish, has dealt ruthlessly with members of the militia forces, which are usually armed only with bows and arrows, slingshots and other primitive weapons.

Leaders of President Alan Garcia's ruling American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA) Party have called for arming the peasant militias with guns to turn them into an anti-guerrilla fighting force.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### IPI protests journalists killing

LONDON (R) — The International Press Institute (IPI) Friday protested to Colombia, El Salvador, Romania and Israel against a series of incidents in which journalists were killed, detained or impersonated by the security forces. The IPI, which represents journalists, editors and publishers worldwide, condemned the killing by drug traffickers Thursday of lawyer Hector Giraldo Galvez, who wrote for Colombia's respected El Espectador newspaper. The IPI called on El Salvador to investigate immediately the killing of freelance photographer Roberto Navas, who worked for Reuters, Dutch cameraman Cornel Lagrouw and Mauricio Pineda, a local television soundman, during presidential elections. The organisation condemned as unacceptable the tactics used by Israeli police who impersonated journalists last week as a means of arresting Palestinian protesters in occupied Jerusalem. It also expressed concern about the detention and reported ill-treatment in prison in Romania of journalists Petre Mihai Bacanu and Anton Ucu, who were arrested in late January for allegedly printing and distributing anti-government leaflets.

### Tibetans attack Chinese embassy

NEW DELHI (R) — Tibetan demonstrators attacked the Chinese embassy in New Delhi Saturday, smashing windows as they tried to batter down the main gate, police said. Sixty Tibetans demonstrating for independence from China battled with five policemen guarding the embassy in Delhi's diplomatic enclave, but failed to break through to the compound. Witnesses said police used their rifle butts to try to quell the demonstrators. The attack collapsed as soon as police reinforcements arrived from a nearby station. All the demonstrators were arrested and quietly allowed themselves to be driven away in police buses. The Chinese embassy is a favourite target for Tibetan exiles lobbying for China to quit the remote Himalayan region. An embassy official who witnessed the attack said it was the most violent he had seen to date. "The Tibetans went to our embassy. They tried to break the front gate but they failed and they shouted slogans," he said.

### N. Korea hits South

TOKYO (AP) — North Korea denounced moves in South Korea to punish a South Korean clergyman currently visiting the North and advocating reunification, according to the North's official Korean News Agency Saturday. KCNA, monitored in Tokyo, said Seoul's minister of the national reunification board March 29 sent a statement to the North "charging that our invitation of the Reverend Moon Ik-Hwan is to shun negotiation between authorities and to divide public opinion in South Korean society...." Media reports have said the South Korean government has decided not to contact the North about opposition leader Moon's visit to Pyongyang.

### Italian woman ends pregnancy protest

ROME (R) — An Italian woman who threatened to give birth outside the Chinese embassy in Rome has moved into a hotel to await her Chinese husband's arrival from Peking. "I feel exhausted but wonderful," Patricia Riccardi, told Reuters. "I don't think the baby will be born before his father arrives." The baby is due any time now. Riccardi, who moved from a caravan outside the embassy and into a nearby hotel Friday night, said she had spoken by telephone to her husband, Zhu Juwang, who was expected in Rome Sunday morning. Riccardi had been living in the caravan for 12 days and threatened to give birth there unless Peking lifted a 14-month ban on her husband leaving China. A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman in Peking said Friday that Zhu, a United Nations interpreter, would be allowed to leave "out of humanitarian considerations and for the friendship of China and Italy."

### Soviet takes U.N. council post

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Soviet chief delegate Aleksander Belongov took over the presidency of the U.N. Security Council Saturday and is expected to press for a council meeting on the Afghan situation. He said Wednesday the United Nations should do a better job in monitoring violations of the agreement the world body brokered last April. The Soviet Union and Afghanistan want U.N. military observers deployed on the frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Security Council's Military Staff Committee will be headed by Brigadier General Gerard Briancon-Rouge of France, succeeding China's Major General Du Kuanyi as chairman of the council's military staff.

### Freedom-To-Write Awards

NEW YORK (R) — Two jailed writers, a Vietnamese poet and an African who was not named for fear of endangering her life, have won Pen American Centre's 1989 Freedom-To-Write Awards, the writers' organisation said Friday. The work of the Vietnamese, Nguyen Chi Thien, who has spent 26 of his 55 years in prisons and re-education camps, has been translated and published in the west. During a brief period of freedom in 1979, he took his poems to the British Embassy in Hanoi, Pen said. He was arrested as soon as he left the embassy and has never been released. A British diplomat passed the manuscripts to a scholar at the London School of Oriental and African Studies. The poems were later translated by Huynh Sanh Thong of Yale University in a volume called "Flowers From Hell." One said, "My poetry's not mere poetry, no, but it's the sound of sobbing from a life/the din of doors in a dark jail/the wheeze of two poor wasted lungs/the thud of earth tossed down to bury dreams...." Of the African, Pen American Centre President Susan Sontag said: "We are unable to reveal the identity of our second Freedom-To-Write Award recipient without endangering her life and the lives of her family members."

## Colombo delays ceasefire offer

COLOMBO (AP) — The government Friday has held back a proposed ceasefire offer to leftist rebels because a political consensus could not be reached, a ruling party member said.

A joint statement signed by four major parties in parliament was put together late Thursday but it was not released because the opposition United Socialists refused to sign it, said the member of the ruling United National Party.

"We need an absolute political consensus on this crucial national issue," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne had said Wednesday that a peace deal will be offered by Friday to the Sinhalese rebels who are campaigning to topple the government.

The extremists, belonging to the Marxist People's Liberation Front, have been blamed for more than 2,500 political killings since January.

The Independent Sun newspaper said Friday the peace package would be a unilateral government ceasefire and an appeal to the rebels to surrender their weapons.

But opposition and ruling party members haggled over the wording of the joint appeal, aborting the offer, said Atananda Senewiratne, of the opposition United Socialist Alliance.

The joint appeal was signed by the United National Party, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, the Tamil United Liberation Front and the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, the ruling party member said.

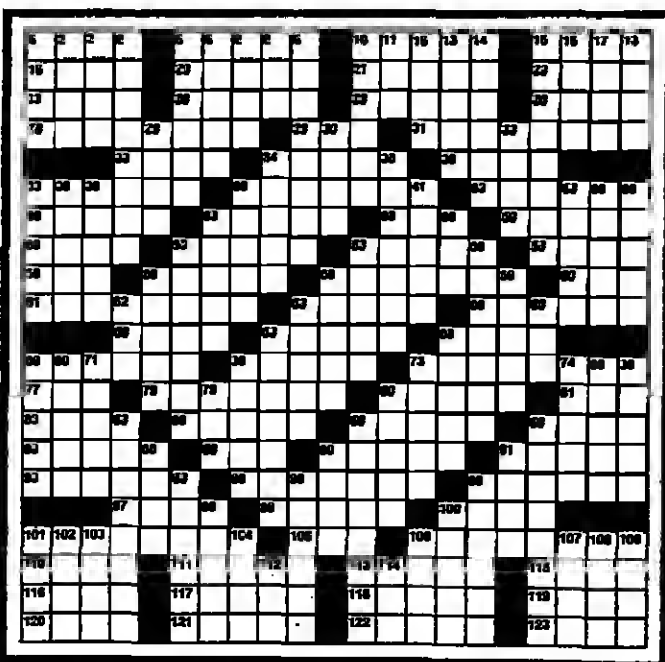
## THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Etkinow

### KITCHEN CABINET

By Arthur S. Verdere

- ACROSS
- 1 Song from Donkey
  - 2 Sleep slope
  - 3 Stomach of "Benson"
  - 4 Lead off top
  - 5 Precise
  - 6 Tense
  - 7 Tau cross
  - 8 Map area
  - 9 Gaily carried
  - 10 Dams
  - 11 Alps letters
  - 12 Biting comment
  - 13 US for trader
  - 14 Tolerance
  - 15 Young children
  - 16 Ladder part
  - 17 Foot part
  - 18 Content
  - 19 Raised platform
  - 20 Hongkong city
  - 21 March bird
  - 22 Hip
  - 23 Throbbing with energy
  - 24 Tiresome
  - 25 Priest of yore
  - 26 Jay's whereabouts
  - 27 Haggard
  - 28 Decade
  - 29 Blade charm
  - 30 Garmen for dance
  - 31 Fall away
  - 32 Ex — (female)
  - 33 Pummery
  - 34 Whom Alden stood for
  - 35 Ship beacon
  - 36 Delicacy
  - 37 Covering networks
  - 38 Marsh bird
  - 39 Hip
  - 40 Throbbing with energy
  - 41 Tiresome
  - 42 Priest of yore
  - 43 Jay's whereabouts
  - 44 Haggard
  - 45 Decade
  - 46 Blade charm
  - 47 Garmen for dance
  - 48 Fall away
  - 49 Ex — (female)
  - 50 Pummery
  - 51 Whom Alden stood for
  - 52 Ship beacon
  - 53 Delicacy
  - 54 Covering networks
  - 55 So it is
  - 56 Severy
  - 57 Chink, nurse
  - 58 Mashed
  - 59 Castor's friend
  - 60 True
  - 61 Colored
  - 62 Qu. letters
  - 63 Any way
  - 64 Lugging
  - 65 Tournament
  - 66 Thaw
  - 67 Bits of New
  - 68 Calcedonia
  - 69 Slit suddenly
  - 70 Swerved
  - 71 Sink suddenly
  - 72 Kind of head
  - 73 Hollow sea
  - 74 Slotted
  - 75 Object holder
  - 76 Over
  - 77 So-so grades
  - 78 Eng. physicist
  - 79 Offspring
  - 80 New
  - 81 Foolish
  - 82 Theology esp.
  - 83 Bore
  - 84 Evidence
  - 85 "— give you anything"
  - 86 Anatomical
  - 87 Best
  - 88 Compel
  - 89 Antichrist's
  - 90 Swoy
  - 91 Cowardice
  - 92 Symbol
  - 93 For fear that



### Last Week's Cryptograms

1. But literally, to eat or not eat quickly was quickly known as a
2. Today, used to say, the image rather than the substance seems to be the thing that counts.
3. College sophomores might sleep through soporific lecture of professor.
4. A humble pie is not in the famous chef's public menu.

### CRYPTOGRAMS

1. MPQV WFXZM BCFGZ WFR WJX KPPZM QPKV  
RVOIBFWX NCVG NFGK RL BCV WFR BCFG  
RL CJOZGM.

—By Sally L. Murray

2. DESHP JEOCLE ZTSBY BATJ AK COABLD  
OZELTY KAE WADLI ZTWJPLEHZEOLK  
JLTLEY.

—By Ray Ireland

3. XETMOZORKY LEDDRIMBNODEFFB AETSFZ  
SOT MOIB NEAT EXMPL FEIDS.

—By Barbara J. Rugg

4. GOS PRUM GAGGI FROMOW AG GLOSSI LOW  
TAOWO TRUOT.

—By Lois H. Jones

